

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

फाइल नं०
FILE No.

C/551/13/PT-TP

खण्ड
VOLUME I

विदेश मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NEW DELHI

विभाग

कार्यालय

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SECTION

Pages. Note - 1-2

Corr. - 1-615

Total- 617 Pages

टिप्पणियाँ/पत्राचार

NOTES / CORRESPONDENCE

विषय

Subject

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Indexed on

माद्यक्षर

Initials

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

(Bringing of his Ashes from Japan to India)

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To be noted

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In Spectral Note Book

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पिछले हवाले
Previous References

(अरुण कुमार चटर्जी)
ARUN KUMAR CHATTERJEE
संयुक्त सचिव (वी.एन.सी.)
Joint Secretary (C.N.V.)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

बाद के हवाले

Later References

No C/551/14/90

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(Disappearance)
of Nakajima



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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

NETAJI'S ASHES

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in a plane accident on 18 August 1945 at Taihoku (Taiwan). His ashes were taken to Tokyo and deposited in Renkoji Temple on 18 September 1945 for safe custody.

2. To resolve the doubts and dispute about the death of Netaji, Government appointed two Commissions of Inquiry (Shah Nawaz Khan Committee 1956 and Khosla Commission 1970). Both the Commissions, after detailed examination, came to the conclusion that Netaji died on 18 August 1945 and ashes kept in Renkoji Temple are his ashes.

3. Need to bring the ashes to India :

- i) Rev. Mochizuki who received the ashes in 1945 and zealously guarded it, died in 1979. The ashes will not get the same dedicated attention which Rev. Mochizuki bestowed upon them;
- ii) His son has taken over as Chief Priest and he cannot be expected to pay dedicated attention to the ashes. According to the latest information received from Netaji Academy, the priest did not have the same reverence to the ashes as his father had. He may even treat it as a liability;
- iii) Netaji Subhash Academy in Japan consisting of admirers and associates of Netaji keep vigil over the ashes. It is pressing for the return of ashes to India. All these people are getting old and may go the way of Rev. Mochizuki;
- iv) In the Japanese culture, feelings towards the dead are special and the remains of the dead at any cost are to be returned home for burial. It looks odd for Japanese that the remains of a national hero are not taken home by a foreign country. This has created adverse publicity for India in Japan;
- v) Renkoji Temple is a small public place and ashes being kept there is not a secret. If the ashes disappear political difficulties may arise over the disappearance.

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5. Foreign Minister visited Renkoji Temple during his recent visit to Japan In April 1982.

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

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भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03 (262) 2391
Fax: 03 (234) 4866

Shivshankar Menon
Deputy Chief of Mission

434/75(EA)/90
30/7

No. TOK/551/1/81

July 20, 1990

S-2542/EA/90
30/7

My dear Vijay,

Please refer to the correspondence resting with this Mission's letter No. TOK/TS/3/78 dated 22nd August, 1989, regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's ashes.

2. As in previous years, Ambassador has been invited to a ceremony on August 18 at the Renko-ji Temple where the ashes are presently being preserved. This year, apart from the normal ceremony, a bust of Netaji is to be unveiled on this occasion. We understand from the organisers that the following will be present:

- (a) Ms. Janaki, formerly of the INA and now an MP in Malaysia.
- (b) Ms. Luxmi Saigal, former INA member.
- (c) Mr. Dutta, former student in Japan.
- (d) Mr. Dhillon.

As you know, Ambassador has not been attending these functions in the past and we shall be keeping to past practice again this year, deputing a Counsellor to attend the ceremony.

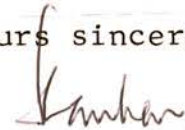
3. On the larger policy question of the return of Netaji's ashes to India, your letter No. 3977/JS(EA)/90 dated 9th July, 1990, indicated that as of Prime Minister Kaifu's visit, it was still our opinion that the matter was too complicated to address. I wonder whether some change may not now be possible. During last year's ceremony at Renko-ji Temple, the wife of Netaji's youngest brother Sales' Chandra Bose also participated in the ceremony. This suggests that large portions of Netaji's family accept the ashes as being those of Netaji, just as the Government of India has. It may, therefore, be appropriate, as suggested in my predecessor's letter of August 22, 1989, to ascertain the views of the surviving family members about the disposal of the ashes. This is becoming increasingly necessary as old age claims Netaji's surviving Japanese associates. Besides, if the Government of India accepts the ashes as being genuine (as it did when accepting the Shah Nawaz Committee and G.D. Khosla Commission reports), then it lays itself open to

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the charge of not providing a home and of failing to treat with proper reverence the ashes of one of India's undoubted patriots. We would be most grateful for your advice.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,



(SHIVSHANKAR MENON)

Shri V.K. Nambiar,
Joint Secretary(EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.



AMBASSADOR

No.TOK/TS/3/78

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IA

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO

September 17, 1981.

2127/AS/8

22/9

My dear Joint Secretary,

When General Katakura and Mr. Hayashi of the Netaji Subash Academy called on me today, they raised again the question of the sending of the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose to India and of their preservation in India.

2. This is an old issue and, therefore, I am not going into the details which the Ministry is fully aware of. As in the past, both the gentlemen emphasised the fact that they are aged now - 84 and 70 years respectively - and they are afraid that once they die there will be no one to look after the ashes carefully.

3. I understand that it is because of the controversy on whether Netaji Subash Chandra had, in fact, died that we have not yet accepted these ashes. I can well understand the political consequences that might arise. But it does seem to me that we must seriously think of some alternative to returning simply a negative reply to the request that India receives the ashes. It is certain that the ashes will be neglected once the present guardians pass away and it is very likely that they will disappear altogether. Think then of the political consequences in India. Will there not be quite a furore over our refusal to have received the ashes earlier and our seeming negligence? I feel, therefore, that we should think of some method of receiving the ashes and that it should be possible to do so and to preserve them in India without a commitment from the Government that it accepts these finally as the ashes of Subash Chandra Bose. To find a suitable formula is not, in my view, beyond human ingenuity.

4. I do not think we should continue postponing a decision on this matter. Would you kindly have it considered and let me know Government's decision?

With kind regards,

(K.P.S. Menon)

Msce & sub for up
with your views

22/9

Shri Ranjit Sethi,
Joint Secretary (EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

AS.

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EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO

NO:TOK/103/1/81

24th Sept., 1981

My dear Joint Secretary,

When I met Director Yasuji Ishigaki at a dinner in Minister Cherpoot's house a few night ago, he said that the Japanese Embassy have been instructed to approach the Ministry about the establishment of a 'peace monument' in Imphal. The task of making and maintaining it would be that of Japan's Ministry of Welfare and the permission of the Govt of India was being sought to establish it.

2. Mr Ishigaki said that the fact of the creation of such a monument would mean a tremendous amount to the Japanese people. He said it would be a 'break-through' in Indo-Japan relations. He explained that similar monuments have been established in other countries, including Burma.

3. Mr Ishigaki also mentioned the question of the return of Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes. On this I have written to separately, after the call on me by two gentlemen from the Academy. Here, too, Ishigaki said, that it would make a fundamental difference in our relations if it was announced that India was taking back the ashes. To my query on why Japan was so keen to return the ashes, Ishigaki said that perhaps there was a guilt complex in Japan and they want to express their gratitude for the help extended by Subhash Chandra Bose. The return of the ashes to Bose's homeland would also typify the veneration in which the Japanese held their ancestors.

4. Although I am very new here, I doubt whether our being able to go along with either matter will really mean such a fundamental breakthrough, as Ishigaki puts it, but I have written why I think we should now accept the ashes. Doubtless, the question of the Imphal monument is also receiving your attention.

Sd/-K.P.S.MENON
Amb

Shri Ranjit Sethi,
JS(EA)
MEA
N.Delhi

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Ranjit Sethi,
Joint Secretary (EA)

No.C/103/19/81-JP

October 15, 1981

My dear Ambassador,

Please refer to your letter No.TOK/103/1/81 of September 24 about your discussions with Director, Yasuji Ishigaki of the Japanese Foreign Office. The Japanese Embassy in Delhi has recently approached us about the construction of the monument for Japanese soldiers who died in the 2nd World War in Imphal. We are considering this.

2. I have received your earlier letter of September 17, about the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose. I share your concern about settling this matter soon and devising an acceptable method to receive the ashes in India. In spite of our best, and repeated, efforts a solution has evaded us.

3. We will take this up with renewed determination and keep you informed.

Yours sincerely,

(Ranjit Sethi)

DP
Sethi
HCP
Shri K.P.S. Menon,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo.

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Folder given to JBL (EA)
in connection with For's visit
to Japan April 16-21, 1982

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The Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

I spoke again to FM about this, pointing out that the last surviving General was aging and could die any moment. While it had not been possible for India to accept the ashes, would not some Party use the possible loss of the ashes, after the death of the present guardian, to attack the Government?

2. FM said that he had not realised the urgency of the matter. "We" would talk with others concerned, such as Chitti Babu of the Forward Bloc, and see whether the ashes could be accepted and preserved, say, in the National Museum, without a commitment on the part of Government that they accepted the ashes as those of Netaji Bose, as suggested in my letter and in ~~xxxx~~ discussion with FM.

3. Initially, FM had mentioned the possibility of a private Museum in Japan looking after the ashes. I said I did not know whether this would be possible but would enquire. While this will be done after I return to Tokyo, in subsequent discussions, the decision was taken as in para 2 of this Note.

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5910/JS(EA)/81
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K.P.S. Menon
(K.P.S. MENON)
Ambassador-~~xxxxxxx~~
of India, Tokyo
27.11.81

JS(EA)

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The Netaji phenomenon

**SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE: THE
BRITISH PRESS, INTELLI-
GENCE AND PARLIAMENT:**
By Nanda Mookerjee; Jayasree
Prakashan: Rs. 65/-

If Subhas Chandra Bose's memory is kept alive in most parts of India mainly by the roads named after him, it is cherished in West Bengal with a passion that often bewilders the non-Bengali. Rare is the Bengali who is not an admirer and who does not regard with some scepticism the account of his death in a plane crash in what is now Taiwan. Many presumed him to be alive till very recently; some still do. For a long time, a sadhu in Shoulmari in North Bengal was thought to be him and hordes of people, including his intimates during his lifetime, flocked to have a look. Denials notwithstanding, many of them came back and vouched that the sadhu was indeed Netaji and would reveal his true identity when the hour struck.

The hour never struck: the Shoulmari sadhu is dead for quite some time now. Rumours of Netaji's impending reappearance at specified places at specified times, which invariably drew large crowds, are no longer heard as frequently. Nor does one hear that he is in a Soviet concentration camp. Yet Bose's name continues to evoke strong sentiments in West Bengal and less so, elsewhere, and the belief lingers that a sinister conspiracy lay behind his sudden disappearance. Hardly surprising then that the Khosla committee's report corroborating the official account of his death in Taiwan provoked many Bengalis to angry protest.

What accounts for Bose's phenomenal hold? The search for an answer can yield revealing clues to the Bengali Psyche. This is important. A further deepening of the Bengali reservoir of grievances, whose presence largely explains the legendary aura that has come to surround him, can have serious consequences.

Bose no doubt had all the qualities of a charismatic leader including an imposing presence

and the ability to move masses through rousing oratory. If his radical and militant politics went down well with the prevailing mood in India his rejection of the Indian Civil Service to which he had qualified standing fourth in the order of merit was an act of renunciation that deeply stirred popular imagination. Crowning all this came the romance of his dramatic escape from Calcutta in 1941, his formation of the Indian National Army and the waging of war against the British from abroad, and the climax of his death amid circumstances hand-stitched for a controversy.

If his last years had invested his image with dimensions almost mythical his rejection of the Indian Civil Service had given him a dramatic entry into the freedom struggle. For, few can underestimate the effectiveness of the renunciation factor in India where the people are steeped in an outlook that idolises the individual who gives up fame, fortune, wealth or happiness (which-ever applies) for a cause.

But while it worked powerfully in the case of a number of leaders—Gandhi and C. R. Das being two striking examples—it is a factor that is not a speciality of West Bengal. The same can be said of the other factors accounting for Bose's popularity. A man like him, one can argue, would have been a charismatic leader anywhere.

True, but up to a point. There are certain other aspects which it would be foolish to ignore. Perhaps the most popular Bengali leader ever, he became, after his death, a symbol of the bold, dynamic leadership that might have led a frustrated, truncated, prostrate and exploited West Bengal to the millennium that independence did not bring. And this brings one to the Bengali reservoir of grievances because of which the Bengalis felt the absence of such a leader all the more acutely.

One of the main streams feeding that reservoir has been the feeling that Bengalis have been hated and exploited by people from other parts of India who have done them out of their legitimate political and economic dues. There is a historic reason for it. Being among the first to come under British rule, they were among the first to take to British education which enabled them virtually to monopolise such white-collar jobs

in the imperial bureaucracy as were open to Indians. Also, contact with Western thought, the intellectual ferment this produced and discrimination by the British to which they were exposed, made them sharply aware of their national identity and led them to play a leading role in the freedom struggle which began to take recognisable shape from the third quarter of the last century.

Their dominance in both areas, however, began to be eroded as Western education spread to other parts and the local people began to compete. Several provinces witnessed active campaigns against government jobs going to outsiders, especially Bengalis. The Bengalis, particularly the white-collar segment of the upper and middle classes which J. H. Broomfield (Elite Conflict in a Plural Society: 20th Century Bengal)



Netaji ... hero of INA

described as the Bhadrak, became increasingly resentful and, with the memory of the first partition of 1905 still fresh in their minds, vulnerable to a persecution complex.

It was precisely at the time the Bengalis started reacting to their dislodgement most acutely that Bose entered the national scene and ascended swiftly to prominence. Instantly, he became a hero; the knight in shining armour on the white charger. Apart from the fact that his style appealed immensely to the emo-

tional and radical Bengalis, his progress fulfilled a deep psychological need by conveying the message that they were yielding place to others not because of any inherent internal inadequacy. He clearly displayed what stuff Bengalis were made of. And this lent further credence to the other belief: that it was hatred towards the Bengalis for their many qualities that led people outside Bengal to combine to put them down.

Bose's own chequered political career, particularly his many brushes with Gandhi, was regarded as further proof. Gandhi was never very popular with the Bengalis, particularly the Bhadrak because of his lack of support to the terrorists whom the latter regarded with profound admiration, and his attempt to bring the masses increasingly within the ambit of the national movement, which threatened their political pre-eminence. Besides his championship of the interests of the poorer sections threatened them because they were often heartless exploiters in their relationship with the latter.

Bose, who came from the ranks of the Bhadrak, displayed some of their social and political attitudes. But not all. He was radical in economic matters and stood for a brand of socialism which was more emotive than cerebral and which he never quite defined with great clarity. His clash with Gandhi was the result of both what he stood for as well as personal incompatibility which became clear after their very first meeting. Reflecting on the letter in his The Indian Struggle Bose said that he found "a deplorable lack of clarity in the plan which the Mahatma had formulated (for the non-cooperation movement) and that he himself did not have a clear idea of the successive stages of the campaign which would bring India to her cherished goal of freedom."

At the root of their personal incompatibility perhaps lay deep temperamental differences. Gandhi was the circumspect strategist actually aware of the dangers of pushing things too far against a powerful alien government which would not hesitate to shed its facade of civility and liberalism the moment its vital interests were threatened. Bose was the man to plunge in regard-

less and not mince his words when it came to criticising Gandhi.

The conflict between the two, which progressively escalated through such incidents as Gandhi's exclusion of Bose's name from the 15-member Working Committee chosen by Jawaharlal Nehru at the Lahore Congress in 1929, reached its peak after Bose's resignation in April 1939, as Congress president, due mainly to Gandhi's opposition. Bose left the Congress and formed the Forward Bloc. About a year-and-a-half later, on January 17, 1941, he left India to seek the support of the Axis powers in the country's independence struggle.

The book under review does not claim to be a definitive biography of Bose or a chronicle of his struggle with Gandhi. Nor does it pretend to be a study of the social context in which Bose's emergence has to be viewed if the exercise has to have any meaning. It gives a brief sketch of the times in which Bose lived and struggled and the main events of his political career. But his account suffers because he is too passably an admirer; the portrait of Bose that emerges is clearly not one with warts and all. The writing is often poor and presentation of research material shoddy. His attempt to justify Bose's association with the Axis powers led to project him as not being fully uncritical of Nazism and Fascism does not quite come off. Bose clearly had more than unseemly admiration for both and so, it appears, has the author who observes, "That ideology has no place in international politics as demonstrated to the world in the most naked manner when the USA, Great Britain and the USSR combined to crush Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany during the Second World War".

With the pejorative expression, "the most naked manner". It also seems that the author holds against the three powers that he joined hands against Hitler and Mussolini! But let that be. The book's main interest presumably lies in the documents it carries and perhaps it ought to be judged in terms of their importance. But here too the presentation is selective and without a total, cohering theme.

—iranmay Kariekar

For information
Dep on the file
JSC
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Secret

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S. S. Gill
Deputy Secretary(EA)

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NO:G/551/13/81-JP

December 21, 1981

My dear Ambassador,

We are trying to seek a solution for the return of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Recently we have prepared a self-contained Note for the Foreign Minister. I enclose herewith a copy of the Note for your information and record. (This note has been prepared by Attache(JK) Shri Ganapathy).

Yours sincerely,

S.S. Gill
(S. S. GILL)
ja

Shri K.P.S. Menon
Ambassador of India
TOKYO

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ISSUED
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14/12/81



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AMBASSADOR

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24/12/81

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भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

EMBASSY OF INDIA

TOKYO

No.D.371/AMB/81

28th December, 1981

My dear Gill,

I was glad to see the comprehensive note prepared by Attache Ganapathi on the question of the return of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. As I see it, the principal difficulty ~~at home is~~ in accepting the return of the ashes has been the controversy over his death, which has assumed political overtones. In seeking a decision that they be accepted, therefore, I think it would be useful to emphasise the political difficulties that will arise if the ashes were to be lost. The possibility of disappearance is mentioned in para II(v) of the note, but I think that it would be just as well to emphasise, whenever discussion of this subject takes place, of the political difficulties which will be caused by such disappearance.

With kind regards,

K.P.S. Menon

Shri S.S. Gill,
Deputy Secretary(EA),
Ministry of E.A.,
New Delhi.

JS (EA) may like to
check with Secy (EA) on this.
The relevant file had been
sent a few days prior to the
Parliamentary Committee.

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~~SECRET~~

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

NETAJI'S ASHES

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in a plane accident on 18 August 1945 at Taihoku (Taiwan). His ashes were taken to Tokyo and deposited in Renkoji Temple on 18 September 1945 for safe custody.

2. To resolve the doubts and dispute about the death of Netaji, Government appointed two Commissions of Inquiry (Shah Nawaz Khan Committee 1956 and Khosla Commission 1970). Both the Commissions, after detailed examination, came to the conclusion that Netaji died on 18 August 1945 and ashes kept in Renkoji Temple are his ashes.

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iii) Netaji Subhash Academy in Japan consisting of admirers and associates of Netaji keep vigil over the ashes. All these people are getting old and may go the way of Rev. Mochizuki;

iv) In the Japanese culture, feelings towards the dead are special and the remains of the dead at any cost are to be returned home for burial. It looks odd for Japanese that the remains of a national hero are not taken home by a foreign country. This has created adverse publicity for India in Japan;

v) Renkoji Temple is a small public place and ashes being kept there is not secret. If the ashes disappear political difficulties are bound to appear over the disappearance.

4. When Ambassador Menon called on FM in November, 1981, this matter was discussed and FM mentioned about the possibility of preserving the ashes in National Museum without a commitment on the part of Government that they accepted the ashes as those of Netaji Subhash Bose.

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

DEATH OF NETAJI
SUBHASH CHANDRA
BOSE AND
AFTERMATH

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died on 18th August, 1945 in a hospital at Taihoku (Taiwan). Two days later, his body was cremated and his ashes were carried to Tokyo in the beginning of September 1945. The ashes were taken to the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo. According to the Priest Rev. Mochizuki, this was on 18th September 1945. After the funeral ceremony, the ashes were deposited in Renkoji Temple and the ashes are still there.

"News of Bose's death in an air crash or in consequence of injuries received in an air crash on August 18, 1945 was broadcast on the radio from Tokyo by the Domei Agency a few days later, and was then published in several newspapers. The news was read by Indians with sorrow and a sense of deep bereavement. The post-war turmoil in the country with the political and economic problems that came with it, was agitating the Indian mind, and Bose's reported death was looked upon as just one more tragic event in an era which had left vast areas in Europe and Asia devastated, homes, institutions and factories razed to the ground, six million Jews exterminated, Hiroshima and Nagasaki all but annihilated, Hitler's aggressive militarism and Japan's pride in never having suffered defeat brought low".

"It was not ^{ever} long before doubts began to be expressed about the truth of the air crash and about Bose's death on August 18, 1945. Many apocryphal accounts of his escape and his subsequent activities were narrated. The demand for an Enquiry into the whole matter became more vociferous, and in this demand, Shah Nawaz Khan who had been a trusted lieutenant of Bose, and the members of the Bose's family, joined. In April 1956, the Government of India appointed a Committee consisting of Major General (INA) Shah Nawaz Khan as the Chairman, and Suresh Chandra Bose, elder brother of Netaji, and Shri S. N. Maitra, ICS, as members to enquire into this matter.
- Khosla Commission"

The Committee examined in all 67 witnesses in India and other concerned places in East Asia and submitted a majority report on 16th July 1956. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose gave a dissenting report. The recommendations of the Committee are as follows :

"The Committee has come to the conclusion that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose met his death in an air crash and that the ashes now at Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, are his ashes. Rev. Mochizuki and the trustees of the Renkoji temple have already kept the ashes for a number of years. Their services deserve to be recognised. If the ashes are taken to be genuine, Renkoji temple cannot obviously be their final resting place. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died ten years ago. It is time that his ashes were brought to India with due honour, and a

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memorial erected over them at a suitable place. This we recommend for the serious consideration of the Government of India. It may be mentioned in this connection that influential circles in Japan are considering putting up a memorial to Netaji in that country. If Netaji's mortal remains are honoured, and his ideals kept alive, then one could truly ask "Where is death's sting, where, grave thy victory"?

Sd/-Shah Nawaz Khan
S. N. Maitra..."

The Government of India accepted the majority report confirming the death of Netaji on 18th August 1945. Prime Minister Nehru in response to a letter from Shri Suresh C. Bose (brother of Netaji) sent the following reply on 13th May 1962 :

"NO:704-PMH/62 dated May 13, 1962

Dear Suresh Bose,

I have your letter of the 12th May. You ask me to send you proof of the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. I cannot send you any precise and direct proof. But all the circumstantial evidence that has been produced and which has ~~been~~ referred to in the Enquiry Committee's report has ~~been~~ convinced us of the fact that Netaji has died. In addition to this, the lapse of time now and the extreme improbability of his being alive secretly somewhere when he would be welcomed in India with great joy and affection, adds to that circumstantial evidence.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-JAWAHARLAL NEHRU...."

The lapse of time mentioned in that letter has now been lengthened by another 19 years.

However the controversy regarding "Bose's disappearance or more accurately non-appearance" continued. Dissatisfaction about the procedure adopted by the Committee and the correctness of its findings was frequently expressed in public. Even the bonafides of Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and Shri Maitra were questioned. The Committee was criticised for not paying a visit to Taiwan to inspect the site of the alleged crash. Rumours of Bose having been seen alive once again became rife. A petition signed by more than 350 Members of Parliament was presented to the President of India in which a demand for a properly conducted judicial inquiry into the matter was made. A similar demand was placed before the Prime Minister. Cabinet accepted this and took a decision to appoint a Commission of Inquiry. The One-Man Commission of Inquiry consisting of Justice G. D. Khosla was appointed on 11th July 1970.

The Commission examined 224 witnesses and a large number of documents, letters, newspaper reports, books and memoranda. The Commission visited all places in Asia connected with the subject of Inquiry and also Taiwan (which was not visited by Shah Nawaz Khan Committee) Justice Khosla concluded that Netaji died on 18th August, 1945, two days later his body was cremated and his ashes were carried to

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- 3 -

Tokyo in the beginning of September 1945 where they were deposited in the Renkoji Temple. He stated that "from the evidence discussed above, I am convinced beyond all reasonable doubts that the wooden casket lodged in the Renkoji Temple at Tokyo contains Bose's ashes and these ashes were placed in the box at Taipei after the cremation of his dead body". Government accepted the findings of this Commission.

Among other observations of Khosla Commission, following is of special interest :

"Another argument advanced is that through Mr Nehru was unwilling for sometime to order an inquiry into Bose's disappearance, he was finally prevailed upon to appoint a Committee. When the Committee submitted its report, the Government accepted it and Mr Nehru in his subsequent replies to questions, asked in Parliament, said that there was no further need to order a second inquiry. Mr Nehru's decision to appoint the first Committee has been interpreted as arising from a doubt entertained by him regarding the truth of the crash story. For the same reason when Mrs Gandhi agreed to the appointment of the present Commission, her concession to the demand of a large number of Members of Parliament was construed as a doubt in her own mind regarding the truth of the crash story. Neither the order of Mr Nehru nor the decision of Mrs Gandhi to direct an enquiry into the disappearance of Subhash Chandra Bose was the consequence of a personal doubt or disbelief in their minds; but, in any event, any number of doubts, any measure of disbelief cannot add upto anything. The value of such doubt is zero and the sum total of several zeroes is no more than zero "

II .

ASHES OF NETAJI IN JAPAN

The ashes of Netaji which reached Japan were taken to the Renkoji Temple on 18th September 1945 for the funeral ceremony. According to Rev. Mochizuki after the funeral ceremony, it is customary for the people to take away the ashes, but in this case he was asked by Mr Ramamurthi, Mrs Sahay and a Japanese staff officer to keep the ashes in a befitting manner as they belonged to a great man, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. He agreed to do so till such time as they could be delivered to the proper authorities. Rev. Mochizuki since taking over the ashes waited for 34 years to hand over it to India and died in June 1979. His son has now taken over the temple and ashes.

Since 1945, Rev. Mochizuki, Netaji Subhash Chandra Academy in Japan (consisting of associates and admirers of Netaji in Japan) and the Government of Japan have been trying regularly for sending the ashes to India. They all showed genuine understanding to the controversy that was raging in India over the issue and did not push the matter of sending the ashes to India to the extreme point. At the same time, they did not hide their feelings of disappointment over the delay. Rev. Mochizuki expressed his feelings of frustration that Indian Government is 'indifferent' towards a national hero who fought for India's independence, as they are reluctant to take the remains

back to India for due honour.

The Government of Japan from the beginning of the episode has played an important though quiet role in keeping the ashes in Japan. The Foreign Minister of Japan visited the Renkoji Temple in 1955 and asked the Priest to keep the ashes carefully. The Government of Japan has also seen to it that the return of ashes was not taken to the point of embarrassment to India.

Rev. Mochizuki in the beginning kept the urn containing the ashes in the main hall of Renkoji Temple and later built a small shrine adjacent to the main hall, of the temple specially to preserve the ashes of Netaji. And on August 18, every year, he used to arrange a special memorial service in honour of Netaji. Prime Minister Nehru, President Rajendra Prasad and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi who visited Japan have all gone to the Renkoji Temple. We are making annual financial contributions to Renkoji Temple for the preservation of Netaji's ashes.

III.

NEED TO BRING THE ASHES TO INDIA

Bringing the ashes to India has been considered in the past and the decision has been postponed. However the matter may be reconsidered and a final decision taken for the following reasons now :

i) Rev. Mochizuki has played a very important role in the preservation of ashes in his temple. He is the one who accepted the ashes on 18th September 1945 for safe custody and has zealously guarded it. In his words "In the beginning, I was very much concerned to see how they ~~shou~~ should be kept properly. I was afraid of the possibility that someone might take away the ashes of such a great man without my knowledge while they were kept in the main hall of my temple. So I wrapped the ashes in the container in a piece of cloth and used to conceal them in the loft of my own room whenever I had to go out. But they could hardly be kept that way all the time. I was so worried about keeping the ashes in my temple that I was apt to be awakened by any little rattling noise at night."

Rev. Mochizuki died on 20th June 1979. His passing away has removed a dedicated soul which had kept a constant watch over the ashes for 34 years. The ashes in Japan will not get the dedicated attention which Rev. Mochizuki bestowed upon it till 1979. The ashes have been orphaned with the death of Rev. Mochizuki.

ii) After the death of Rev. Mochizuki, his son has taken over the Temple as Chieft Priest. He has taken over the temple and alongwith it the ashes of Netaji. For him, the ashes are one of the material things that he has inherited. It is not a sacred thing which he has received directly for safe custody as in the case of his father. The ashes cannot expect to receive his dedicated attention. The possibility of his treating the ashes on a liability from the balance sheet he inherited from his father cannot be ruled out.

iii) Netaji Subhash Academy in Japan consists of Japanese nationals who were associated with Netaji and his admirers. Alongwith Rev. Mochizuki, the Academy members have revered the ashes and have been active in the preservation of them in Japan. Recently, General Katakura, (84 years) and Mr Hayashi (70 years) met our Ambassador in Tokyo and emphasised the fact that they are aged now and they are afraid that once they die, there will be no one to look after the ashes carefully. As they have rightly emphasised after sometime the Netaji Subhash Academy in Japan may go the way of late Rev. Mochizuki and there may not be any Japanese national left in Japan who realize the existence of the ashes in Japan and respect it.

iv) In the Japanese culture, feelings towards dead are special and the ~~ashes~~ Japanese tradition calls for the dead to be returned at any cost for burial at home. After the war, Japanese Government has sent delegations to all the places where the Japanese soldiers died during the second World War operations to collect the ashes and bring them to Japan for proper funeral ceremony and for permanent resting. Japanese groups have come to Imphal also for this purpose. The ashes of Gen. Tojo, wartime Prime Minister of Japan ~~was~~ buried secretly after he was hanged for his war crimes. After a lapse of more than 30 years, the ashes were shifted to Yasukuni Shrine, national monument where ashes of the Japanese who died in the wars are kept and venerated.

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v) Our Ambassador in Tokyo, in a recent letter, has mentioned the prospect of disappearance of ashes in the long run due to neglect. The fear expressed by Ambassador is not hypothetical; an incident according to late Rev. Mochizuki, has actually happened. According to him, "and I was advised by the Indian Embassy authorities that I should contact them immediately if there was anyone who embarrassed me about the ashes. And, in fact, there was such an attempt for instance, the wife of Mr Sahay came to my temple to ask for the ashes which she said she would like to take to India.

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She rather demanded them of me. But since I had been warned in advance, I said to her "I cannot comply with your request because the ashes do not belong to me. I cannot give you even a single piece of them". Thus, I flatly refused her demand."

Fortunately an incident like this has not happened since then. Nevertheless there is no guarantee that such incidents may not happen in the future. If such an attempt is made in future, Rev. Mochizuki who used to worry about it even in his sleep, is not in Renkoji Temple protecting it. Crimes are getting sophisticated. There was that notorious theft of Charlie Chaplin's body for ransom money. Renkoji Temple where the ashes are kept is a small public temple and the fact of the ashes being there is not a secret.

vi) Articles that belonged to Netaji like Sword, treasures etc. have been ceremoniously received in India inspite of the doubts in some quarters about his death.

Renkoji Temple in Tokyo cannot be the final resting place for the ashes of Netaji. That temple and late Rev. Mochizuki have already done a great service to us by preserving and venerating the ashes for the past 36 years. Recent developments explained above illustrate that circumstances and people which ensured the safety of the ashes till now in Japan are disappearing. Whatever be the controversy over the circumstances of Netaji's death, it is incumbent upon Government to accept the ashes and notwithstanding the likelihood that until the question of Netaji's death is finally resolved, the ashes will tend to be ignored and therefore find a less congenial environment here than in Japan. The moral obligation on us now is not so much to accept that the ashes in Japan are Netaji's, but to accept the return of the ashes to India whether they are or not.

Recently our Ambassador in Tokyo had an opportunity of discussing this matter with Foreign Minister. The possibility of accepting and preserving the ashes in the National Museum without a commitment on the part of the Government that they accepted the ashes as those of Netaji was considered by Foreign Minister.

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

DEATH OF NETAJI
SUBHASH CHANDRA
BOSE AND
AFTERMATH

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died on 18th August, 1945 in a hospital at Taihoku (Taiwan). Two days later, his body was cremated and his ashes were carried to Tokyo in the beginning of September 1945. The ashes were taken to the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo. According to the Priest Rev. Mochizuki, this was on 18th September 1945. After the funeral ceremony, the ashes were deposited in Renkoji Temple and the ashes are still there.

"News of Bose's death in an air crash or in consequence of injuries received in an air crash on August 18, 1945 was broadcast on the radio from Tokyo by the Donai Agency a few days later, and was then published in several newspapers. The news was read by Indians with sorrow and a sense of deep bereavement. The post-war turmoil in the country with the political and economic problems that came with it, was agitating the Indian mind, and Bose's reported death was looked upon as just one more tragic event in an era which had left vast areas in Europe and Asia devastated, homes, institutions and factories razed to the ground, six million Jews exterminated, Hiroshima and Nagasaki all but annihilated, Hitler's aggressive militarism and Japan's pride in never having suffered defeat brought low".

"It was not long before doubts began to be expressed about the truth of the air crash and about Bose's death on August 18, 1945. Many apocryphal accounts of his escape and his subsequent activities were narrated. The demand for an Enquiry into the whole matter became more vociferous, and in this demand, Shah Nawaz Khan who had been a trusted lieutenant of Bose, and the members of the Bose's family, joined. In April 1956, the Government of India appointed a Committee consisting of Major General (INA) Shah Nawaz Khan as the Chairman, and Suresh Chandra Bose, elder brother of Netaji, and Shri S. N. Maitra, ICS, as members to enquire into this matter. - Khosla Commission"

The Committee examined in all 67 witnesses in India and other concerned places in East Asia and submitted a majority report on 16th July 1956. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose gave a dissenting report. The recommendations of the Committee are as follows :

"The Committee has come to the conclusion that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose met his death in an air crash and that the ashes now at Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, are his ashes. Rev. Mochizuki and the trustees of the Renkoji temple have already kept the ashes for a number of years. Their services deserve to be recognised. If the ashes are taken to be genuine, Renkoji temple cannot obviously be their final resting place. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died ten years ago. It is time that his ashes were brought to India with due honour, and a

On Netaji file
in copy

memorial erected over them at a suitable place. This we recommend for the serious consideration of the Government of India. It may be mentioned in this connection that influential circles in Japan are considering putting up a memorial to Netaji in that country. If Netaji's mortal remains are honoured, and his ideals kept alive, then one could truly ask "Where is death's sting, where, grave thy victory"?

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सं०.....

दिनांक १५/१/६६

भारत सरकार
प्रधान मंत्रो कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली-110011.

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ज्ञापन

पत्र दिनांक..... ८/१

विदेश मंत्रालय को उचित कार्यवाही
के लिए प्रेषित किया जाता है।

पत्र की पावती नहीं भेजी गई है।

15 JAN 1966

P.M.O. 13.

कृते सीनियर पिटीशन्स आफिसर

LA Div

16/1/66

Phone : 4 2 2 1 6 9 1
33, POC KHANWALLA ROAD
B O M B A Y - 400 025.

267
S. C. BOSE

80882
Office : 714, Raheja Centre,
7th floor, Block No. 214,
Nariman Point, Bombay 400 021
Telephone : 24 29 68
T/Gram : BOSESHOE-Bombay
Telx : 011-4753-A/B-BOSE IN

SCB/ 1569 /82

Regd. A. D.

January 8, 1982

Smt. Indira Gandhi
Prime Minister of India
Safdarjang Road
NEW DELHI

9
460/EAD/82
1871



Dear Smt. Gandhi,

I have come to know that there is a proposal to bring the so-called ashes of my brother, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to India.

There is no convincing proof that the so-called ashes are genuine and that of my brother. Furthermore, there is a controversy that the so-called aircrash at the Taihokku airport did not at all take place and if it did, my brother Subhas was not a victim.

Under the circumstances it would be wrong to pass off the so-called ashes as genuinely being that of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. It is besides the point as to whether Netaji is still alive or not.

Under the circumstances I would beseech you to pass necessary orders that the so-called ashes are not brought into this country for which act of yours I shall ever remain grateful.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sailesh Bose

(Sailesh Bose)

BA
18/1

Ministry of External Affairs.

(EAST ASIA DIVISION).

Secretary (E) /

Ne laji Ashel

Two warning

Paraph.

Pl keep on the file.

25.1.82

26/1

AJ

JS ✓

DS

US

SRO

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SO

EAD.

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Letters to the Editor

the existence of the ashes in Japan and also confirming the plane crash as they knew it for a fact being the nearest persons present at the time of the crash at Taihoku.

As one of the 45 INA Tokyo cadet officers who were selected from East Asia at Singapore by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and sent to the Japanese aviation and military academies in Tokyo in 1943 and who were in Japan at the time of Netaji's plane crash at Taihoku in August 1945, I can vouch for the fact of Netaji's demise in that crash. The INA Tokyo Cadets had kept watch over the ashes of Netaji for some time after they were brought to Japan and later took part in keeping them at the Renkoji Temple, Tokyo on the advice of Mr. S. A. Iyer, who was the Minister of Publicity in the Azad Hind Government in Japan then, because the Americans and British occupation officials were after the ashes and Col. Habibur Rahman, who accompanied Netaji in the plane that crashed was arrested and taken away. As we, the Tokyo Cadet officers were also about to be arrested it was decided that the sanctity and safety of a temple will provide adequate protection for the sacred ashes. This decision and action has proved to be correct because but for this we would have lost the last remains of Netaji.

And now, we are making efforts to move the conference and the Netaji Research Bureau Directorate to take necessary steps to approach the Prime Minister and the Government of India to make arrangements for bringing Netaji's ashes to India and establish a befitting memorial to him as has been done for our other national leaders.

The Government of India's enquiry commission and investigations have accepted the fact of Netaji's death and the existence of the ashes. No agency, except some individuals, have expressed doubt over this and they have been repeating and adopting an attitude detrimental to the honour of Netaji.

K. Doraiswamy

Madras

**Srirangam
Rajagopuram**

Sir—It has been interesting to read the news published over the past few months about the progress made in

Netaji's ashes

Sir,—The news item in the press regarding a letter of Mr. S. C. Bose, elder brother of Netaji to the Prime Minister, advising her not to give permission for bringing Netaji's ashes from Japan to India at this time is really surprising.

The silver jubilee celebrations of Netaji Museum and the Netaji Research Bureau at Calcutta, (headed by Dr. Sisir K. Bose, nephew of Netaji) are being celebrated from January 23 to 29 at Calcutta. An international seminar on Netaji has been arranged and delegates from all over the world are attending the conference. Mr. Tatsuo-Hayashida, the Japanese officer who was responsible for bringing Netaji's ashes from Taihoku to Tokyo is also attending the conference.

At a convention held at Calcutta last January, during the celebration of Netaji's birthday it was made clear to the people of Bengal through television, radio, press conferences and public meetings by the INA Tokyo Cadet Officers attending the conference, about

Netaji remembered

Express News Service

NEW DELHI, Jan 23.

On the 86th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, the Azad Hind Fauj Association on Saturday rejected the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee about Netaji's death in 1945 as the report has been given against overwhelming evidence to the contrary.

In a resolution, the association condemned the "nefarious" activities of people attempting to bring the ashes of Netaji from Tokyo.

The association demanded that the Government of India reject the verdict at Tokyo declaring Netaji dead.

Meanwhile numerous functions were held in the Capital to celebrate Netaji's birth anniversary. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi paid him a rich tribute at a small ceremony in Subhash Park in Jama Masjid. Mr V. V. Mongia, deputy commissioner, garlanded Netaji's statue and urged the people to emulate the regional harmony and social equality propagated by Netaji.

Representatives of the Samajvadi Yuvjan Sabha, Delhi Pradesh, at a function in Nizamuddin said that as Netaji had fought the British, society should fight the supremacy of the English language.

In Calcutta, a large number of men, women and children streamed to the museum at Netaji Bhavan which had been a centre of political activities since the days of the non-co-operation movement in the early twenties.

Crackers were exploded when the siren vailed at 12.15 a.m. marking the time of his birth on January 23, 1897.

In Patna, wreaths and garlands were placed at the proposed site for a statue of Netaji.

In Bangalore, President Sanjiva Reddy laid the foundation stone for a Rs 2.5 crore sports complex.

In Amritsar, the day was celebrated as freedom fighters day.

PATNA: Forward Bloc workers and others celebrated the 85th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose here.

The day's programme included prabhat pheries, placing of wreaths and garlands at the pro-

posed site for erection of a statue of Netaji in the local Gandhi Maidan.

The general secretary, All-India Forward Bloc, Mr Ramayan Singh, said at a meeting that the present crisis facing the country could be solved by following the path shown by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

A resolution, urging the Central Government to declare January 23, the birthday of Netaji, as a public holiday.

AGARTALA: Glowing tributes were paid to Netaji Subhas on his 85th birth anniversary all over Tripura.

Inaugurating a function here, the Tripura Chief Minister, Mr Nripen Chakrabarti, called upon the people to put up a united resistance against the imperialist and separatist forces for the survival of democracy as prescribed by Netaji.

A colourful procession was taken out. It included a tableau depicting various phases of the country's freedom struggle.

(30)

(28)

(14)

The Hindustan Times
January 17, 1982

MPs move to bar 'Netaji's ashes'

CALCUTTA, Jan. 16 (UNI) — Concerned over a reported move to instal the urn stated to be containing the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, at a memorial to be erected in India, a number of Opposition MPs have decided to seek President Sanjiva Reddy's intervention to stop any such "unholy attempt". Netaji's brother Mr S. C. Bose has already urged Prime Minister Indira Gandhi against bringing of the ashes.

The apprehensions have assumed greater seriousness, they feel, in the context of the impending visit to India of Gen. Fujiwara, custodian of the urn now preserved at Renkoji Temple in Japan, on the occasion of the 88th Netaji birthday celebration on January 23.

Gen. Fujiwara, it is reported, proposes to hand over the urn to the INA Association and is stated to hold talks in this connection in Delhi and Calcutta.

Netaji's birthday celebrated

By A Staff Reporter

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birthday was celebrated in Delhi on Saturday by many organizations.

The Azad Hind Fauj Association in a resolution said motivated findings of the Shah Nawaj Committee and Khosla Commission about Netaji's alleged death on August 18, 1945, at Tai Hoku were not accepted by it as these prompted findings had been given against overwhelming evidence produced before the committee and the commission.

The resolution said subsequent disclosures by the British Government in the Transfer of Power, Volume VI and Wavell's Diary conclusively proved that the alleged plane crash was a "myth" and Netaji did not die in such an alleged plane crash.

It condemned the recent "nefarious activities" of some interested persons to attempt to bring in alleged ashes of Netaji from Tokyo in the name of Netaji. "The Group for the Reversal of the Tokyo Verdict"—an organization comprising INA men, scholars, lawyers and journalists—conveyed its demand to the Indian Government for the rejection of the verdict of the Tokyo International Tribunal's judgment according to which

Netaji would be branded as a "war criminal". The Government should issue an official declaration to reject the verdict of the majority judgment at Tokyo as "totally illegal".

In a joint statement, Mr P. K. Chandra and Mr M. R. Arya, both BJP leaders, and general secretaries of the Lok Parishad, criticized the Government for not granting them permission to hold Netaji's birthday function in Diwan-e-Am of Red Fort.

They said the Lok Parishad began celebrating Netaji's birthday at Diwan-e-Am in 1978 and continued for three years at the same place. It had to cancel last year's function because the Archaeological Survey of India gave permission on January 21. But this year though the Lok Parishad applied for the permission on December 2, the Archaeological Survey department did not care even to convey the regrets.

The Delhi Panthers Party organized a meeting to mark the day. Its workers took a pledge to dedicate their lives "for the liberation of the downtrodden millions of people from the bonds of poverty, exploitation, hunger and starvation."

Mr Bhim Singh, president of the Jammu and Kashmir Panthers Party, urged the Government to declare January 23 as a "national day".

Tributes were paid to Subhas Chandra Bose at a function organized by the Delhi Municipal Corporation in Subhas Park, near Daryaganj on Saturday to mark his 88th birth anniversary.

Mr V. V. Monga Deputy Commissioner (coordination), garlanded a statue of Subhas Chandra Bose and in a brief speech described him as a "great patriot and freedom fighter".

PTI adds: Colourful processions, seminars, public meetings and bursting of crackers formed part of the celebrations in various parts of the country.

In Bangalore, the President laid the foundation stone for Rs 2.5 crores new south centre complex of the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports at the university campus coinciding with the anniversary day.

In Calcutta, a large number of men, women and children streamed to museum at Netaji Bhavan which had been a centre of political activities since the days of the non-cooperation movement in the early 20s.

They also burst crackers when the siren was sounded at 12.15 p.m. marking the time of his birth on January 23, 1897.

In Patna, garlands were placed at the proposed site for erection of a statue of Netaji. A meeting was also held where a resolution was passed urging the Government to declare January 23 as a holiday.

In Tripura, the Chief Minister, Mr Nripen Chakrabarti, called upon people assembled to celebrate Netaji's birth anniversary, to resist the "imperial and separatist forces" for the survival of democracy. A colourful procession was taken out.

In Punjab, Haryana and the Union Territory of Chandigarh, the occasion was celebrated as the National Integration Day.

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UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 734

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 734

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH FEBRUARY, 1982

ASHES OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDER BOSE

734.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of External Affairs विदेश मंत्री
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the statement of Shri S.C. Bose elder brother of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose published in Tribune of 14 January, 1982 urging not to permit the so called ashes of Netaji to be brought from Japan; and

SS1/13/81-58 (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO)

विदेश मंत्री

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has taken note of the views expressed by Shri S.C. Bose, elder brother of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

.....

25 फरवरी, 1982 - - 6 फरवरी, 1983
को लोकसभा की बैठक में उत्तर दिए जाने के लिए

नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस जी का

प्रश्न संख्या: 754

श्री चिरंजी लाल शर्मा:

क्या विदेश से यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

【क】: क्या 14 जनवरी, 1982 के दिवस को स्थापित नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के चढ़े साई श्री एस.पी. बोस के इस व्यक्तित्व को भारत सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट किया गया है कि जावानों से नेताजी का तथा-कथित गुप्ती को लाने की अनुमति न दी जाये, और

【ख】: यदि हाँ, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ।

उत्तर:

श्री पी०वी० तरसिंह राव:

विदेश से

【क】: जी, हाँ ।

【ख】: सरकार ने नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के चढ़े साई श्री एस.पी. बोस द्वारा व्यक्त विचारों पर गौर किया है ।

25 फरवरी, 1982 - - 6 फाल्गुन, 1903 शका
को लोकसभा की बैठक में उत्तर दिए जाने के लिए

नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की तारीख

प्रश्न संख्या: 734

श्री चिरंजी लाल शर्मा:

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताते की हुआ करेगा कि

।क।: क्या 14 जनवरी, 1982 के दिवस के शासित नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के बड़े भाई श्री एस.सी. बोस के इस व्यक्तित्व को सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट किया गया है कि जापान के नेताजी को तथा-कथित मुस्ली को लाने की अनुमति न दी जाये, और

।ज।: यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है।

उत्तर:

श्री पी०वी० तरसिंह राव:

विदेश मंत्री:

।क।: जी, हाँ।

।ज।: सरकार ने नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के बड़े भाई श्री एस.सी. बोस द्वारा व्यक्त विचारों पर गौर किया है।

Foreign

Tributes to Netaji

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13. (PTI): Tributes were paid to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the two-day 12th annual Washington conference dedicated to the Indian nationalist leader.

Col. A. D. Jahangir of the Indian National Army and a close associate of Netaji, the main speaker, recounted the events of the turbulent period of the war years in south-east Asia and the role played by Subhas Bose and the INA in a touching speech, he detailed the circumstances that led to the formation of the INA and the arrival of Netaji from Germany. Events followed in quick succession. The provisional Government of Azad Hind (free India) was formed and war was declared on the allied powers.

He recalled Netaji boarding a plane for an unknown destination.

Col. Jahangir expressed his belief that Subhas Chandra Bose was alive and was living somewhere till an opportune moment arrives for his return home.

The conference was earlier formally opened by Mr A. N. D. Haksar, Deputy Chief of the Indian Mission, who said Subhas Bose made supreme sacrifice for his country.

Mr Rajan Borra, executive director of Subhas Society, Washington, referred to the various papers read at the meeting on various aspects of Netaji's life and his influence would continue in the future.

Netaji Akhbar file

PK

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

List of Indians/Delegations to China- 1981

S.No.	Particulars	Purpose	Period	Sponsored by
1.	Hindustan Insecticides- 2 member delegation	Business	12-19 Jan 81	
2.	G.Ramaswamy, Director Fertilizers, IFC	-do-	Jan 81	
3.	V.V.Shastri, Director, Inst. of Petroleum Exploration ONGC.	Meeting on Petroleum Geology.	Mar. 81	ESCAP
4.	Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, MP		Apr. 81	
5.	Dr. T.Srinivasan, Director, International Inst. of Population Studies,	Consultancy on Population Statistics	1 month from Apr. 81	WHO
6.	B.B.Mondal, and 9 others of India China Friendship Assn.		May 20- June 2 81	CPAFEC
7.	Prof Anjan Datta, Vice Chancellor Visvabharati Kantiniketan	Tagore birth anniversary celebration	May 81	CPAFEC
8.	B.K.Tobli, Central Electricity Authority	Study tour on Small Hydro Power Stations	22 May June 6	UNDP
9.	Abu Abraham Cartoonist	..	May 22- June 8	CPAFEC
10.	Dr. H.Rajalakshmi Dept. of Zoology Miranda House	to present lectures seminars	4 weeks from May 5	WHO
11.	B.K. Lebru, Governor (J&K)	Private	15-19 June 81	
12.	T.R.Balagopalani Dy Commissioner H/Rural Re-construction	study tour	Jun 22 Jul 4	ESCAP
13.	Anur Nath Star Publications Pvt Ltd New Delhi	arrange exhibition of books	19-25 July	self
14.	Miss Nalini Chontra Vice President (Sales) Cox & Kings, New Delhi	attend First China International Travel Conf.,	7-16 June	China Inter national Travel Service

contd.

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UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5165

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5165

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH MARCH, 1982

INSTALLATION OF URN STATED CONTAIN ASHES OF NETAJI
SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

5165. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

Will the Minister of External Affairs विदेश मंत्री
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a controversy has arisen over the reported move to instal the urn stated to be containing the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at a memorial to be erected in India;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (c) the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO)

विदेश मंत्री

(a) Various opinions have been expressed regarding the urn said to contain Netaji's ashes;

(b) & (c): Government have noted the views of all concerned with a view to deciding on the most appropriate course of action.

.....

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लोक सभा :

अतिरिक्त प्रश्न संख्या : 5165

25 मार्च, 1982 ----- 4 चैत्र, 1904 1981
श्री लोकसभा की बैठक में उत्तर दिए जाने के लिए

बेताजी गुमाब चन्द्र बोस के कथित

=====

भस्म-कलश की स्थापना

=====

प्रश्न संख्या : 5165

डॉ० कृपा सिन्घ मोहं :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

1. क्या जिस कलश में बेताजी गुमाब चन्द्र बोस की भस्म रखी हुई बताई जाती है उसे भारत में स्मारक के रूप में स्थापित करने की कथित कार्यवाही पर कोई विवाद उत्पन्न हो गया है;

2. यदि हाँ, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;
और

3. इस मामले में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

उत्तर :

श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव :

विदेश मंत्री :

1. जिस कलश में बेताजी की अस्थि रखी बताई जाती है, उसके बारे में विभिन्न लोगों के अलग-अलग राय व्यक्त की हैं।

2. और 3. सरकार ने सभी सम्बन्धित व्यक्तियों के विचारों पर गौर किया है ताकि इस विषय पर सर्वाधिक उपयुक्त कार्यवाई करने के बारे में निर्णय लिया जा सके।

(38)

(38)

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5165

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5165

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25TH MARCH, 1982

INSTALLATION OF URN STATED CONTAIN ASHES OF NETAJI
SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

5165. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

Will the Minister of External Affairs

विदेश मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a controversy has arisen over the reported move to instal the urn stated to be containing the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at a memorial to be erected in India;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (c) the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO)

विदेश मंत्री

(a) Various opinions have been expressed regarding the urn said to contain Netaji's ashes;

(b) & (c): Government have noted the views of all concerned with a view to deciding on the most appropriate course of action.

.....

(39)

(39)

लोक सभा :

अंतराष्ट्रिय प्रश्न संख्या : 5165

25 मार्च, 1982 ----- 4 अप्रैल, 1984 [अठ]
जो लोकसभा की बैठक में उत्तर दिए जाने के लिए

नेताजी गुमाच चन्द्र बोस के कथित

मस्म-दलन की स्थापना
=====

प्रश्न संख्या : 5165

डॉ० कृपा सिन्धु मोहं :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

[क] क्या जिस कलश में नेताजी गुमाच चन्द्र बोस की मस्म रखी हुई बताई जाती है उसे भारत में स्मारक के रूप में स्थापित करने की कथित कार्यवाही पर कोई विवाद उत्पन्न हो गया है;

[ख] यदि हाँ, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;
और

[ग] इस मामले में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

उत्तर :

श्री पी० वी० अरविंद राव :

विदेश मंत्री :

[क] जिस कलश में नेताजी की अस्थि रखी बताई जाती है, उसके बारे में विभिन्न लोगों के अलग-अलग राय व्यक्त की हैं।

[ख] और [ग] सरकार ने सभी सम्बन्धित व्यक्तियों के विचारों पर गौर किया है ताकि इस विषय पर सर्वाधिक उपयुक्त कार्यवाही करने के बारे में निर्णय लिया जा सके ।

(40)

5369/Sy/12824/81-

11-12-87

58

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December 10, 1987

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh,

Please refer to your letter No.IJS/Netaji/3/87, dated 7th November 1987 regarding the remains of Netaji in Japan.

2. Your letter indicates that you are aware of the controversy regarding the matter including the reservations which have been expressed by some members of Netaji's family. This controversy has also received media coverage on some occasions and has also figured in Parliament.

3. While sharing your respect for Netaji, whom we all hold in high esteem, we are hesitant to take any action which may accentuate the controversy on this issue. A national consensus on this question would be necessary before Government can take a formal decision so that the chance of any controversy recurring at a later date is avoided. Your efforts towards the building of such a consensus would be most welcome.

Yours sincerely,

Re

↓

(A.B. Gokhale)

Shri L. Joychandra Singh
Prajantra
Imphal.
Manipur.

Issued
11-12-87

डा.सं० 1707 जे एस(ईए)/82
Dy. No. JS (EA)/82
दिनांक 6/5/82
Dated

FUJIWARA ASIA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

%ITOMI K.K. 3-6-2, Higashi-Nihonbashi,
Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103, Japan.
Tel : (03)662 2661-3

TOKYO. 5 March 1982

REF.

H.E. Mr. PV. NARASIMHA RAO
Minister of External Affairs
Ministry of External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi

Dear Mr. NARASIMHA RAO:

Learning that you have been in good health and that you have been working double tides for the national affairs, I want to be among the first to pay my respects to you and your endeavors.

It was my great pleasure and honor that I could share your tight schedule and, moreover, that I could have an opportunity to convey our cordial request of survived war-comrades and bereaved families to you for building the Memorial Tower in Inphal for the war dead of both forces of Japan and India and returning Mr. NETAJI BOSE's ashes to his mother land.

On my return to Japan, I immediately reported all of this to both your Ambassador to Japan and our Foreign Affairs officials and also conveyed your deep consideration to both members of War-Comrade Association and Bereaved Family Association.

I heartily believe these two subjects will have been an everlasting basis of friendship and cooperation between our two nations. I sincerely hope your deeper consideration to realize our cordial request, sympathizing with my resolution in which I, as one of still-surviving old soldiers, advocate the promotion of friendship and cooperation between two countries as my lifetime vocation.

I would like to thank you again for everything you have done to me. Wishing you the continued health and success.

Very truly yours,

A. Fujiwara

Iwaichi Fujiwara
Lieutenant General (JGSDF Retired)

FM
Put up
reps.
P.V. M
9/5
TS(EA)

(u2) Cat. A. Baf.
(38)
M. GANAPATHY
ATTACHE(JK)

NO:C/551/13/81-JP
~~6/12/81 2/22/82~~

(12)
24th May 1982

Dear Sir,

I am sending herewith for your information a copy of the letter from Lt. Gen. Fujiwara to our Foreign Minister and the reply sent by our FM to that letter.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(M. GANAPATHY)

o/c 2/5/82
Shri K. P. S. Menon
Ambassador of India
TOKYO

18/5/82
27/5
8

4/55 1/13/81-JP

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डा.सं०
Dy. No.
दि.नं.
Dated

1885

जे एस (ई)



विदेश मंत्री का कार्यालय
Foreign Minister's Office
सं.सं.सं. 5029
Dy. No. 10/5/81
दिनांक
Date

I have prepared a draft
reply for Ltr; below.

[Signature]

(JS(EA)).

9/5

Letter issued, etc placed below

~~13 to 24.~~

[Signature]

11/5

[Signature]

~~JS(EA)~~

16/5

~~AJ~~
15/5

(44)

5020/fm/t

New Delhi
May 11, 1982.

Dear General Fujiwara,

Thank you for your letter of March 5 in which you have expressed your deep commitment to promoting the development of relations between India and Japan. I fully reciprocate the sentiments that you have expressed.

I welcomed the opportunity that your recent visit to India gave us to discuss India-Japan relations in general and, in particular, the subjects that you have raised in your letter. I would only reiterate that both the proposal to construct a War Memorial for the Japanese dead at Imphal and the question of returning Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes to India are receiving our close and continued attention. Indeed, during my recent visit to Japan I was able to discuss both these questions. More generally, I would like to say that I had a most productive visit to Japan -- one that makes me confident that the friendly relations and cooperation between our two countries will continue to develop to mutual satisfaction.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.V. Narasimha Rao)

Lieutenant General Iwaichi Fujiwara,
Fujiwara Asia Research Institute,
C/o Itomi K.K. 3-6-2, Higashi-Nihonbashi,
Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103.
(Japan)

Handed by Ainslie
13/5/82

DL

(48)

42

Dear General Fujiwara,

Thank you for your letter of March 5 in which you have expressed ^{your} ~~a~~ deep commitment ^{to} promoting the development of relations between India and Japan. I fully reciprocate the sentiments that you have expressed.

2. I welcomed the opportunity that your recent visit to India gave us to discuss India-Japan relations in general and, in particular, the subjects that you have raised in your letter. I would only reiterate that both the proposal to construct a War Memorial for the Japanese dead ^{at} ~~in~~ Imphal and the question of returning Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes to India are receiving our close and continued attention. Indeed, during my recent visit to Japan I was able to discuss both these questions. More generally, I would like to say that I had a most productive visit to Japan ^h one that makes me confident that the friendly relations and cooperation between our two countries will continue to develop to mutual satisfaction.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.V. Narasimha Rao)

Lieutenant General Iwaichi Fujiwara,
Fujiwara Asia Research Institute,
c/o Itomi K.K. 3-6-2, Higashi-Nihonbashi,
Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103, Japan.



AMBASSADOR

No. TOK/551/1/81

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

EMBASSY OF INDIA

TOKYO

6th May, 1982

डा.सं०

Dy No

दिनांक

तारीख

SUBJECT : Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's Ashes

My dear Joint Secretary,

Gen. Katakura called on me again today. He was accompanied by Mr. Hamada and Mr. Hayashi.

2. Gen. Katakura handed over the attached letter and petition, addressed to our Foreign Minister, together with an aide memoire, which is also attached. He explained that this was being done because Gen. Fujiwara had understood in his discussions with Foreign Minister that Foreign Minister had wanted a letter on the subject.

3. In making the request that India receives the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Gen. Katakura repeated the same arguments, emphasising particularly that he and the others like him were getting old, that after that time reverence would not be paid to Netaji Bose here and, therefore, they wanted that the ashes should go to India now, to be scattered in the river Ganga in accordance with tradition. He also said that the present priest of the Renkoji Temple was son of the old priest who was devoted to the memory of Netaji Bose and who had passed away and that the youngman do not feel the same reverence. This was another reason for India receiving back the ashes. I need not dilate upon this subject further, nor upon the suggestion that I have made in earlier correspondence, because you are familiar with both.

I think we could make a summary, in a note on the file, for Fof's information.

With kind regards,

K.P.S. Menon

Shri Ranjit Sethi,
Joint Secretary(EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

11/5
AS - for action
Senary
put for
file

(47)

B4

P E T I T I O N

To: The Hon. Shri P.V.Narashenha Rao
Minister for External Affairs
Government of India

From: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy
Tokyo, Japan

Subject: Petition for the Return of the Ashes of Late Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose to India.

Sir,

Herewith our petition regarding the return of the Ashes of Late Subhas Chandra Bose which is at present enshrined in Renkoji Temple, Nakano, Tokyo.

We shall be much obliged if you could grant us the permission to send back the Ashes of Late Subhas Chabdra Bose to India at your earliest convenience.

August 18th, 1945 when Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose died in an air crash at Taipei air port, 37 years have passed since then, on September 18th, 1946 the remains and the Ashes of Netaji was brought and enshrined in Renkoji Temple, Nakano, Tokyo. Then about 10 years after all those who were concerned with Netaji gathered and offered prayers on the death anniversary day the 18th August.

May, 1956 Netaji's death investigating team headed by Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan arrived in Tokyo and again Prime Minister of India Late Pandit Nehru visited Renkoji Temple on October 1957. Since then high interest were taken by various people and on January 23rd, 1948 Netaji's Birthday Anniversary Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy was established headed by Mr. Keizo Shibusawa.

(48)

(35)

Since then this Academy observed Netaji's birthday party on 23rd January and Death Anniversary on 18th August every year.

Thirty years have passed since the first president of the Academy and to Mrs. Emori who died 3 years ago and the present president Gen. Katakura all have the same intention of returning back the Ashes of Netaji to India. Especially, this year in January 1982 when Gen Iwaichi Fujiwara visited India he met and discussed with your Excellency, and has submitted Aide Memoir, a copy enclosed herewith. This gave us the opportunity of writing this letter, for which we appreciate your cooperation.

Now, the problem is that the members of the Academy who respected and honoured Netaji are getting old, moreover, the High Priest of Renkojim who was a great admirer of Netaji, died and his son have taken over the Temple and needs a change over, so we request responsibility and for the sake of goodwill and friendship we request the Ashes of Netaji should be returned to India at the earliest possible moment.

Hoping that this request should be granted,

Yours respectfully

J. KATAKURA

Tadashi Katakura

President

Netaji Subhas Chandra
Bose Academy

(49) BB

To: His Excellency, Shri.P.V.Narashinha Rao
The Minister for External Affairs,
Government of India

From: Netaji, Subhas Chandra Bose Academy
Tokyo, Japan

Subject: The Repatriation of the Ashes of Late Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose to India, enshrined in
Renkoji (Buddhist Temple), Tokyo

Sir,

The Remains of the Late Subhas Chandra Bose is at present, as you know well, kept enshrined in Renkoji Temple, Nakano, Tokyo.

We shall be much obliged if you could repatriate the remains of the Late Subhas Chandra Bose to India at your convenience.

Since August 18th 1945, when Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose passed away owing to an air crash at Taipei Air Port, 37 years have passed and September 18th 1946, the remains and the Ashes of Netaji was brought and enshrined in Renkoji, Nakano, Tokyo. Thereafter about 10 years after all those who were concerned with Netaji used to gather and offer prayers every year on the death anniversary day the August 18th

In May 1956, Netaji's fact finding team headed by Gen.Shah Nawaz Khan visited Tokyo and further more, Prime Minister of India, the Late Pandit J. Nehru also visited Renkoji in October 1957. Preceding to that more interest has been intensified by various circle of Japanese people and on 23rd January 1948, the Netaji's Birthday anniversary, our Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy was organised headed by Mr. Keizo Shibusawa.

Since then this Academy used to observed Netaji's birthday party on 23rd January and Death Anniversary on 18th August every year.

Thirty years have passed since the first president of the Academy and to Mrs. Emori who died 3 years ago and the present president Gen. Katakura all have the same intention of sending back the Ashes of Netaji to India. Especially this year in January 1982, when Gen. Iwaichi Fujiwara visited India he met and discussed this subject with your Excellency, submitting Aide Memoire, copy of which is enclosed herewith. This gave us the opportunity of writing this letter for which we appreciate your cooperation.

Now, the problem is that the member of the Academy who respected and honoured Netaji are getting old, moreover, the High Priest of Renkoji, who was a great admirer of Netaji, died and his son has taken over the Temple and needs

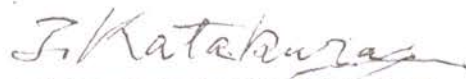
/ ...

Page 2.

a change over, so we feel the responsibility and for the sake of goodwill and friendship, we request you the Ashes of Netaji should be returned to India at your earliest convenient time.

Hoping that this request should be drawing your due attention and reaction.

Yours respectfully,



TADASHI KATAKURA

President

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academ

Tokyo.

Aide memoire

General Iwaichi Fujiwara met His Excellency the Minister for External Affairs, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao at 3.30 P.M. on 21st January, 1982.

General Fujiwara, at the outset expressed his heartfelt gratitude to His Excellency for giving him time out of his very busy schedule.

The General took the opportunity to express his sincere thanks for the permission given by the Government of India to collect the mortal remains of the Japanese soldiers who laid their lives in Imphal & Manipur. This permission was given three times and the General also had accompanied the delegation. He wished to expressed his thanks on behalf of the bereaved families as well as the war veterans.

According to the General's information an official communication through the Japanese Ambassador has been sent to the Government of India proposing the erection of a memorial at Imphal. The General would like to use the occasion to make a personal request to His Excellency about the erection of a peace memorial in memory of the soldiers who ~~ala~~ laid their lives at Imphal. In his opinion this memorial would serve as a mark of respect not only for the Japanese soldiers and the Indian soldiers of the Indian National Army but also the Indian soldiers who fought on behalf of the British Army. He felt that the memorial would be a symbol of cooperation and friendship between Japan and India as well as a symbol of Peace. The General mentioned that there is a grand memorial in Kohima for the British soldiers who fought and fell in this region. The fact that there is no memorial for Indian soldiers and the Japanese soldiers who sacrificed their lives fills him with sadness and on that count also he would appeal for the efection of a memorial.

This is a
good
argument

The General next referred to the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose being kept in a temple in Tokyo. He stated that twice a year ceremonies are held by the old war veterans who cooperated with the Indian National Army and who hold Netaji in great respect. He stated that while the decision to bring back Netaji's ashes would be left to India and the Japanese have no intention of influencing this decision he would only like to convey that they were prepared to send Netaji's ashes back to India with due respect and honour.

Finally, the General expressed his heartfelt thanks for all the kindness and hospitality he has been receiving in India. He was moved that he was treated as state guest both in Bombay and in Punjab. He stated that he has been associated with India for the past 40 years and has been doing his mite for promotion of better relations between India and Japan. He would continue to do so for the rest of his life.

Once again he thanked His Excellency for all the kindness he has shown him in listening to his views and wished him a long and healthy life.

(54)
Ranjit Sethi,
Joint Secretary (EA)

~~SECRET~~
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi. (51)

No. C/551/13/81-JP

(15)
May 25, 1982

24/50.14
Please refer to your letter No. TOK/551/1/81 of May 14 conveying what Mr. A.M. Nair has told you about Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's family's attitude to the ashes at Renkoji Temple.

2. In fact our background notes on the subject have alluded to the attitude of Subhash Chandra Bose's brother to the ashes. This is one of the reasons why it has been politically difficult for us to take a decision to get the ashes back. Perhaps we did not sufficiently draw your attention to this when showing you the papers here in Delhi.

3. Of course we have recommended the return of the ashes notwithstanding the objections of the immediate family; this is because the ashes have been looked after as Netaji's ashes and, thus, we seem to have a sort of moral obligation to relieve the Japanese of this responsibility. If returned we could, of course, ourselves decide what to do with them. They could be kept stored until a final decision is taken. Two Government Appointed Commissions of Inquiry (The Shah Nawaz Commission of 1956 and the Khosla Commission of 1970) have concluded that the ashes at the Renkoji Temple are Netaji's. This, however, has not eliminated the controversy. Everything considered I believe that we should still be in favour of bringing the ashes back.

Yours sincerely,

(Ranjit Sethi)

Shri K.P.S. Menon,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo

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(55) 16 U8981 GAO/82 VHB 62

Ministry of External Affairs
(East ASIA Division)

...

Mr. Endo, First Secretary of Japanese Embassy, New Delhi came to see me today and said that the Japanese Government have received a petition from the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy, Tokyo, Japan. A copy of the petition is placed below and is self-explanatory. The petition is on the lines conveyed to our Embassy and other VIPs visiting Japan in that their members are growing old and may not live too long. Consequently they request the Government of India to agree to accept the return of Netaji's ashes to India.

Mr. Endo said that while on the one hand they understand India's position on the subject they simultaneously sympathise with the plea made by the Netaji Academy. In this manner, the Japanese Government is imparting official support to the plea made by the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy, Tokyo.

(S.S. GILL)
Deputy Secretary (EA)
May 31, 1982.

J. C. M.

I'd discussed this with J. C. M.
I'm informing you J. C. M. is in Tokyo. NFA
for the present. he can take it up again
when J. C. M. returns.

Ag

✓ 2/5

(56)

43

P E T I T I O N

To: The Hon. Shri P.V.Narashenha Rao
Minister for External Affairs
Government of India

From: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy
Tokyo, Japan

Subject: Petition for the Return of the Ashes of Late Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose to India.

Sir,

Herewith our petition regarding the return of the Ashes of Late Subhas Chandra Bose which is at present enshrined in Renkoji Temple, Nakano, Tokyo.

We shall be much obliged if you could grant us the permission to send back the Ashes of Late Subhas Chabdra Bose to India at your earliest convenience.

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May, 1956 Netaji's death investigating team headed by Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan arrived in Tokyo and again Prime Minister of India Late Pandit Nehru visited Renkoji Temple on October 1957. Since then high interest were taken by various people and on January 23rd, 1948 Netaji's Birthday Anniversary Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy was established headed by Mr. Keizo Shibusawa.

(56)

(57)

Since then this Academy observed Netaji's birthday party on 23rd January and Death Anniversary on 18th August every year.

Thirty years have passed since the first president of the Academy and to Mrs. Emori who died 3 years ago and the present president Gen. Katakura all have the same intention of returning back the Ashes of Netaji to India. Especially, this year in January 1982 when Gen Iwaichi Fujiwara visited India he met and discussed with your Excellency, and has submitted Aide Memo, a copy enclosed herewith. This gave us the opportunity of writing this letter, for which we appreciate your cooperation.

Now, the problem is that the members of the Academy who respected and honoured Netaji are getting old, moreover, the High Priest of Renkojim who was a great admirer of Netaji, died and his son have taken over the Temple and needs a change over, so we request responsibility and for the sake of goodwill and friendship we request the Ashes of Netaji should be returned to India at the earliest possible moment.

Hoping that this request should be granded,

Yours respectfully

J. KATAKURA

Tadashi Katakura

President

Netaji Subhas Chandra
Bose Academy

(58) (957)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

17

S.S. GILL
DY. SECRETARY (EA)

NO. C/55/13/81JP

New Delhi, June 1, 1982.

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The Japanese Embassy while calling on the Division in connection with other matters, handed over to us a petition as received by their Foreign Office from the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy, Tokyo, Japan. A copy of the petition pertaining to the return of the ashes of late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to India is enclosed and is self-explanatory.

While handing over the petition, Mr. Endo, the First Secretary stated that while the Government of Japan understood India's position in this regard, simultaneously, however, they were sympathetic to the views expressed by the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy in Tokyo.

The above is for your information and we shall pursue this further here.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S.S. GILL)

Shri K.P.S. Menon,
Ambassador,
Embassy of India,
Tokyo.

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FOREIGN ND

C.LL DS(EA) FROM KHERGAMVALA

YRLET C/551/13/81 JP FIRST JUNE ADDRESSED TO AMBASSADOR.

ENCLOSURE NOT RECVD. PL IF POSSIBLE DESPATCH BY NEXT AVAILABLE BAG.

INDEMBASSY

15 JUN 1982

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DS(EA) 15877/T2

Ministry of External Affairs

Time of Receipt 131545

Time of Despatch 151547

Signature of Operator

(60)
(19)
M. GANAPATHY
ATTACHE (JK)

NO:C/551/1/81-JP

17th June 1982

Dear Shri Khergamvala,

Please refer to your telex dated 15th June.

/ This is

2. Enclosure to DS(EA)'s letter NO:C/551/13/81-JP dated 1st June 1982 which was inadvertently not enclosed, is being sent herewith. A copy of the petition addressed to the Foreign Minister by Netaji Subhash Chandra Academy in Tokyo. As you may notice, this is the same petition which was forwarded by our Ambassador vide his letter NO:TOK/551/1/81 dated 6th May 1982.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(M. GANAPATHY)

Shri F. J. Khergamvala,
First Secretary
Embassy of India
TOKYO

SANKAR PROSAD SANYAL
"FREEDOM FIGHTER"

4572/JSCER/8

11212/FM/82

3/11/82

TEMPLE STREET
JALPAIGURI : 735101
INDIA.

JALPAIGURI: 29 OCTOBER, 1982.

30

10, 1987 / EAP / 82
12/1/81

CORRIGENDRUM TO LETTER OF 27 OCTOBER, 1982

Dear Shri Rao,

Placed before (Change)
Not that this is much of an improvement!
I am sorry that in reference with my above said letter of 27 OCTOBER, 1982 it is by mistake your name has been spelt out as Shri Narsingha Rao, instead of, Shri P.V. Narsingha Roa as usual. I beg to be excused for unwilling mistake. And, it will be expected of you and the Government of India alongside Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister, India to dinounce and disown the Fake Ashes of "NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE" which the present incumbents of the Renkoji Temple at Tokyo in Japan are very much anxious to pass it over to the onus to somebody's else Custody then of their's.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,
S. Sanyal.
S. Sanyal.
30/10.

Shri P. V. Narsingha Rao,
Minister for External Affairs'
Government of India,
South Block, NEW DELHI.

Ends. One.

SS/V.

(63)

From: Sankar Sanyal,
Freedom Fighter.

49

Temple Street,
JALPAIGURI-735 101
I N D I A.

JALPAIGURI : 27 OCTOBER, 1982.

Dear Shrimati Gandhi,

re: Tabloid by Shri Ashis Roy, date line:
London, 21 October, 1982 appeared in the
Annadabazar Patrika, Dak Edition, dated,
the 24th October, 1982 apropos - "SUBHAS
CHANDRA BOSE".

With regard to above and in reference with two letters dated, Calcutta, 2 October, 1982 and Jalpaiguri, 21 October, 1982 with its enclosures, this I write to say to you and all concerned - again, that "SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE" is not Dead, but, Alive. He is now living a life of Yogi - a spiritual being and the seeker of Truth & Knowledge both immanent and transdent. And, as such, you and, for that matter, the Government of India, must disown the "Fake Ashes" the present incumbents of the "Renkoji Temple" of Tokyo in Japan are seeking the favour of the Government of India and/or the External Affairs' Ministry for having it to be taken from their "custody" to India. life of yesterday.

Trust, you shall be abided by this utmost truth of ours, shall see to it that the Government of India must not indulged in any sorts of pretext diplomatic or otherwise to oblige them.

And, your catagorical reply in the context of enhancing the pension to the Freedom Fighters and, the expeditious disposal of the bona-fide applications of them which the Ministry of Home Affairs' have yet to sanction, are being looked forward with interest on your own integrity of purpose, among other major preoccupation and bindings. Meantime, with Vijoya greetings,

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-
Sankar-Sanyal.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi,
Prime Minister, India,
NEW DELHI - 110011.

cc to: 1. President of India,
Rastropati Bhavan, New Delhi, 2. External Affairs' Minister
India, 3. Home Minister, India, New Delhi, 4. Finance Minister,
India, New Delhi, 5. Minister of Railways, India,
New Delhi,and....

S. Sanyal,

30/10.

SANKAR SANYAL
FREEDOM FIGHTER

(64)

Received on 3/11/82

60
TEMPLE STREET
JALPAIGURI : 735101
INDIA.

JALPAIGURI : 27 OCTOBER, 1982.

Dear Shri Rao,

re: the fake ashes of "SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE"
and my letter of date addressing to
Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister, India

Enclosed, please find, the zerox copy of a letter of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, dated, New Delhi, May 31, 1965, and, the copy of my letter of date addressing to Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister, India, New Delhi, with regard to above.

/and
Your early reply will be looked forward with interest and, in the meantime, with Vijaya greetings from an unassuming freedom fighter in the cause of freedom struggle for the Independence movement since his boyhood/in having taken active part and keeping the secret of "THE OCCULT EXPLOSION OF THE BRITISH MARCHENT NEVY AT BOMBAY PORT IN THE YEAR OF 1944 APRIL 14" obviously on some secret vow and understanding and to be revealed at as it had been stipulated or after the demise. M

Sincerely,
Sankar Sanyal.
Sankar Sanyal.

Shri Narsingmha Rao,
External Affairs' Minister
Government of India,
South Block,
NEW DELHI - 110011.

Enclo. As stated.

cc to:

ss/v.

From: Sankar Senyal,
Freedom Fighter.

6
Temple street,
JALPAIGURI-735101
I - N - D I A .

JALPAIGURI : 27 OCTOBER 1982.

Dear Shrimati Gandhi,

65
re: Tabloid by Shri Ashis Roy, date line
London, 21 October, 1982 appeared in
the Annadabazar Patrika, Dek edition,
dated, the 24th October, 1982 apropos
"SUNHAS CHINDRA BOSE" /*****

With regard to above and in reference to two letters dated, Calcutta, 2 October, 1982 and Jalpaiguri, 21 October, 1982 with its enclosures, this I write to say to you and all other concerned again, that "SUNHAS CHINDRA BOSE" is not Dead, but, Alive. He is living a life of Yogi - a spiritual being and seeker of Truth & knowledge both immanent and transcendent, apart from the political, economic and social life of yesterday. And, as such, you and, for that matter, the Government of India, must disown the "Fake Ashes" the present incumbents of the "Rainkoji Temple" of Tokyo in Japan are seeking the favour of the Government of India and/or the External Affairs' Ministry for having it to be taken from their "custody" to the government of India's.

Trust, you shall be abided by this utmost truth of ours and, shall see to it that the Government of India must not indulged in any sorts of pretext diplomatic or otherwise to oblige them.

And, your categorical reply in the context of enhancing the pension to the Freedom Fighters and, the expeditious disposal of the bonafide applications of them which the Ministry of Home Affairs' have yet to sanction, are being looked forward with interest of your own integrity of purpose, among various other major preoccupation and bindings. Meantime, with vijaya greetings,

Yours sincerely,

sd/-
Sankar Senyal.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi,
Prime Minister, India,
NEW DELHI - 110011.

cc to: 1. President of India,
Rastropati Bhavan, New Delhi, 2. External Affairs' Minister,
India, 3. Home Minister, India, 4. Minister of Finance, India,
New Delhi, and.....

Sankar Senyal
27/10.



MINISTER
INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
INDIA.

New Delhi,
May 31, 1965

Dear Shri Sanyal,

Thank you for your letter of the 27th May
and your sentiments.

It is true that millions of people in our
country and outside will miss my father, but I feel that
it is not right for us to mourn his passing but rather to
be glad that he was born in India and gave so much of him-
self not only to worthwhile causes but to the millions who
met him or got to know him through his writings. He left
us only after he had laid solid foundations for the
progress of our country and with memories to inspire and
guide our work in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Indira Gandhi
(Indira Gandhi)

Shri Sankar Sanyal,
Foreign Agency,
Temple Street,
Jalpaiguri
W. Bengal

As stated this xerox copy is being sent to Shri Barsingha Roa,
Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, as an enclosure to letter
dated, Jalpaiguri, the 27th October, 1962.

Sankar Sanyal.
Sankar Sanyal.

27-10-62

L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

67

21

Phone { 1538
147 (O)
471 (R)

PRAJATANTRA BUILDINGS, IMPHAL.
MANIPUR, INDIA

Impnal May 23, 1984

Dear Shrimati Indiraji,

I think, now the time has come to bring the remains of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Renkoji Temple of Tokyo to India. Some years back when I met the Chief priest of the temple, he wondered why India did not request Japan for return of the remains of Netaji who died for freedom of India. Some people in Japan also expressed the same view.

Personelly, I feel that the remains of Netaji should be brought to India and be kept in India at a specially constructed Shrine.

Shri Sheel Bhadra Rajee, former M.P. and President, All India freedom fighters organisation told me that there would be no objection from Netaji family members in bringing the remains from Japan to India.

To make consensus, you may please call leaders of the opposition parties and obtain their views also.

I think there will ~~will~~ be nobody in India accept your goodself to do this. During Janta time, nobody spelt out about this as there were mixture of opinions.

I hope, you will kindly consider this matter. It will give a great impact on the minds of Indian.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely

(L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH)

Shrimati Indira Gandhi
Prime Minister
India, New Delhi

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JS(EA)
3/5/84

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22
64
No. 1665-EAM/84

New Delhi
June 21, 1984
21-64

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh,

Please refer to your letter of 23rd May 1984, addressed to the Prime Minister, suggesting that the remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose should be brought to India from the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo where they are at present.

As your letter itself suggests, you are aware of the controversy surrounding this question, including the serious reservations expressed by some members of Netaji's family. This controversy has figured in our media from time to time and also in the Parliament.

I need hardly state that we all hold Netaji in very high esteem. But, at the same time we would be reluctant to do anything which might only add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains. Your letter gives the impression of possible rethinking on the part of some members of the Netaji family on this question. It would be better if those members of the Netaji family who have been opposed to this idea in the past were to formally communicate their views to us, particularly if they think differently now.

I fully agree with you that there should be a national consensus on this question before the Government takes a formal decision so that a controversy in any form is avoided at a later stage. Any efforts on your part towards this end would be most welcome.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

of sdh
(P.V. Narasimha Rao)

2 m/s
By ksk
Shri L. Joychandra Singh
Prajatantra Buildings
Imphal
(Manipur)

(69)

-2-

✓

Copy to Shri C.R. Gharekhan, JS (PMO).

2/25/68

Ram
9 (Ramu Damodaran)
Addl. PS to FM

(70)

June 16, 1984.

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh

Please refer to your letter of 23rd May '84, *addressed to the* *Prime Minister* suggesting that the remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose should be brought to India from ^{the} Renkoji Temple in Tokyo where they are at present.

2. As your letter itself suggests, you are aware of the controversy surrounding this question, including the ~~serious~~ reservations expressed by some members of the Netaji family. This controversy has figured in our media from time to time and also in the Parliament.

3. I need hardly state that we all hold Netaji in very high esteem. But, ~~the~~ at the same time we would be reluctant to do anything which might only add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains. Your letter gives the impression of ~~some~~ possible rethinking on the part of some members of the Netaji family on this question. ~~I shall be grateful if you could apprise me of something more specific in this connection.~~ It would be ~~even~~ better if those members of the Netaji family who have been opposed to this idea in the past were to formally communicate their views to us, particularly if they think differently now.

4. ^a ~~Where~~ I fully agree with you ~~is~~ that there should be national consensus on this question before the government takes a formal decision so that a controversy in any form is avoided at a later stage. ~~I am sure you will appreciate that it is a rather sensitive issue where the feelings and sentiments of all concerned must be respected.~~ Any efforts on your part towards this end would be most welcome.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(~~Indira Gandhi~~)

Shri L. Joychandra Singh,
Prajatantra Buildings,
IMPHAL.

FM

(11)

DRAFT

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh,

Please refer to your letter of 23rd May 1984, addressed to the Prime Minister, suggesting that the remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose should be brought to India from the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo where they are at present.

As your letter itself suggests, you are aware of the controversy surrounding this question, including the serious reservations expressed by some members of ~~the~~ Netaji's family. This controversy has figured in our media from time to time and also in the Parliament.

P. V. M.

I need hardly state that we all hold Netaji in very high esteem. But, at the same time we would be

reluctant to do anything which might only add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains. Your letter gives the impression of possible rethinking on the part of some members of the Netaji family on this question. It would be better if those members of the Netaji family who have been opposed to this idea in the past were to formally communicate their views to us, particularly if they think differently now.

I fully agree with you that there should be a national consensus on this question before the Government takes a formal decision so that a controversy in any form is avoided at a later stage. Any efforts on your part towards this end would be most welcome.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.V. Narasimha Rao)

Shri L. Joychandra Singh,
Prajatantra Buildings
Imphal

Copy to Shri C.R. Ghazekhan,
JS (PAW)

Remains Of Indian Leader Still Here

The remains of Indian independence leader, Subhas Chandras Bose are still in a Tokyo temple and it is not clear if they will be returned to India in the near future.

A group of Japanese acquainted with Bose had asked Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to sound out Indian government officials on whether the remains could be

returned to India, but Nakasone did not bring up the issue during his recent official visit to New Delhi.

Bose died in a plane crash in Taiwan in August 1945.

He was a political rival to the late Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru before India won independence from Britain.

Bose was a proponent of achieving independence through use of arms while Nehru placed emphasis on political negotiations with Britain.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Takao Fujinami Saturday told the group seeking the return of Bose's remains that Nakasone did not raise the issue during his visit to New Delhi earlier this month.

A complex domestic political situation in India apparently was the reason Nakasone failed to raise the question.

Bose's remains are preserved at Renkoji Temple in Tokyo's Suginami-ku.

Nehru and his daughter, as well as the present Indian prime minister, Indira Gandhi, visited the temple during visits to Japan.

The late Indian prime minister was quoted as telling temple officials in 1957 that he wanted the remains to be kept there for a while.

To be placed on
the relevant file
CA
24/7

The Japan Times Weekly

9-6-84

(24)

(74)

70

Remains of Bose Will Remain in Tokyo

The remains of Indian independence leader, Subhas Chandras Bose are still in a Tokyo temple amid uncertainty whether they can be returned to India in the near future.

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Nehru and his daughter, present Indian prime minister, Indira Gandhi, visited the temple during their visits to Japan.

The late Indian prime minister was quoted as telling temple officials in 1957 that he wanted the remains to be kept there for a while.

9551/13/81-51

9551/13/81-51

75

Netaji "did not" die in air crash

NEW DELHI, Aug 11 (U.N.I.) — The ultimate fate of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose will perhaps never be known, but a film-maker here claims that he has definite proof that Netaji did not die in an air-crash as is generally believed.

Dr C.P. Sajlendu feels that the person who died in the crash was Basant, the brother of a close associate of Netaji.

Basant, who was wearing Netaji's uniform and his watch, set himself afire, resulting in a fire aboard the plane leading to its crash.

In "Yeh Desh Hamara Hai", a film being produced in Hindi and English by Dr Sajlendu who has also written its script, Netaji is shown as switching planes at Shanghai in China after learning that a condition for the Japanese surrender to the allied forces was his capture.

The film is being directed by Kidar Sharma.

Another theory being expounded by the film-maker is that Bose and Hitler met and had negotiations about German help to India's struggle for independence.

Hitler is said to have told Netaji that India was geographically too far for him to interfere, but if Netaji joined forces with him to defeat the allied forces, it would mean the defeat of the British as well.

The film-maker has already obtained permission from the Governments of Germany and Switzerland to shoot in their territories. They also expect to shoot the film in Burma, Afghanistan, Austria, Japan, Italy,

Pakistan, Britain and Poland. The film-maker has already got the script cleared from Netaji's colleagues.

To be placed in
file



AMBASSADOR

SECRET

EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO

No. TOK/551/1/81

12 July 1985

My dear *Ranjit,*

During your visit here, I somehow omitted to raise a question which has been pending for many years, the return of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. There is some correspondence on the subject and you must be more familiar with the background than myself.

General Katakura came to see me on July 4 along with two of his assistants in the Netaji Subash Chandra Bose Academy. He is now more than 80 years old. After giving me some interesting glimpses of Subash Chandra Bose in Japan during war time, he pressed me to request Government of India to accept the return of the ashes, since he would not live much longer. I parried this by referring to the dilemma which the Government of India would have in accepting the ashes. The General said that Netaji's brother, who had opposed the return of the ashes, could now be more receptive. Shri Shah Nawaz Khan had died two years ago. He had believed that the urn in Renkoji Temple did contain the ashes of Subash Chandra Bose. So had the Khosla Commission.

My predecessor had noted all this and emphasised the point that our Government would come in for criticism in case the remains of Subash Chandra Bose were not properly cared for in Japan in course of time. But he was also concerned about the objection raised by Subash Bose's elder brother.

In my view, the time has come for us to consider the question more positively. Irrespective of the Government, India esteems Netaji Subash Chandra Bose as a historic figure, a patriot, who deserves national respect. The Government, to my mind, shares this view. In that case, it would be unforgivable for India to be indifferent to the question of the custody of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose's remains. There is a moral obligation for us, not only to accept the return of the ashes, but to press for it and to preserve them in a suitable memorial. The inaction amounts to neglect, which is not in keeping with our traditions. The genuineness of the ashes has been established by sufficient evidence in two enquiries conducted by the Government of India. It is no longer a matter of deferring to the wishes of one relative of Subash Chandra Bose.

Another aspect on the family side is that Subash Chandra Bose was married in Austria and has a daughter, who is now reported to be living in America. Government is aware of this. I do not know whether her wishes have been consulted. If so, kindly let me know what they are.

General Katakura also asked us to participate in the observance of the anniversary of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose's death on 18th August. He lamented that the Japanese Foreign Ministry no longer send a representative on this occasion. We shall send someone from the Embassy.

I hope you will raise the matter again for a final decision. The options are:-

- (i) To accept the return of the ashes and to preserve them suitably in a memorial in India, under the auspices of the Government of India;
- (ii) To accept the return of the ashes and keep them out of view for some years;
- (iii) To refuse the return of the ashes;
- (iv) To work for the continuance of status quo, keeping the ashes in Renkoji Temple in Japan;
- (v) To tell the Japanese caretakers that they should negotiate directly with the relatives of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose and that the Government of India washes its hands off the whole matter;

Among these alternatives, I believe that the first is the only honourable choice, consistent with India's national feelings and traditions.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely



(A. Madhavan)

Shri R.S.Kalha
Joint Secretary(EA)
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi.

(26) (78)

6915/EAD/85
18/9

Ministry of Home Affairs
Freedom Fighters Division

Subject: Memorandum presented to Sh. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister
by All India Freedom Fighters Organisation.

Shri N. Alexander, ex-MP has requested to bring the
Ashes of Netaji Subash Chander Bose to India from Tokyo and to
pay homage to him.

Ministry of External Affairs is requested to consider
the request raised in the memorandum (copy enclosed) and
furnish the details in the matter so that Sh. Alexander may
be replied accordingly.

(K.N. SINGH)

Under Secretary to the Government of
India.

Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

MHA UO. No. 3/12/85-FF(P) dt. 16/9/85.

DS(EAD)

EA

3085/10/EAD/85
17/9

12.9.

on file
18/9

AK
18.9.

All India Freedom Fighters Organisation
7, Tautan Maulan Road, New Delhi

Dated 7th August, 1985.

Memorandum presented to Shri Rajiv Gandhi Prime Minister of India and President of AICC(I) by the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation on 7th August, 1985.

.....

Respected Rajivji,

Jai Hind! We are proposing to bring to your kind notice that our Freedom Fighters are prepared to undertake centenary programmes and make it an historical one by celebrating very important movements and days of the National Celebrations, and martyrdom days throughout the country. Their lives, sacrifices have inspired, we, the freedom fighters to sacrifice so much for the cause of the country. Already two thirds of the Centenary is over and we could not pay proper homage to the martyrs.

for example:

On 9th August the quit India Day is to be celebrated; on 9th September All India Kisan Day is to be celebrated; On 13th Sept. Day of Jatindra Nath Dass martyrdom and achievement of privilege to political prisoners; on 29th Sept., Kamagata Maru Day; on 2nd October Mahatma Gandhi Birth Day; on 21st October Azad Hind Hukumat Day; on 31st October Indira Gandhi Martyrdom Day.

X | Our National Executive decided to request the Government of India to bring Netaji Subash Chander Bose Ashes from Tokyo and pay homage, who twice presided over the Indian National Congress.

From all these and such other programmes we request you to bring us active cooperation and financial ~~not~~ assistance.

We request you to fix a day for a get together of selected Freedom Fighters with the Prime Minister and Rashtrapati during the Centenary year.

The educational curriculum for Schools and colleges should include, lessons of freedom struggle and national leaders.

We are constrained to bring to your kind notice that your promise to release the suspended 1st class card passes to all Freedom Fighters has not been implemented. We request to resume the same.

We have decided to hold the 8th AKFF Convention in Bombay on 25th and 26th Dec., 1985 in Azad Maidan and Shri Wasant Dada Patil is the Chairman of the reception Committee and Prof. N.G. Ranga M.P. will preside over the conference. We earnestly request you to kindly inaugurate the open session on 26th Dec., 1985 at your convenience. Nearly 30,000 delegates will be participating. We look forward for your acceptance for the same.

We are submitting a detailed scheme about the Freedom Fighters Cultural Centre, which our organisation has undertaken. We request you to give your earnest cooperation and support for the same.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely.

Sd/-

1. Sh. Sheel Bhadra Bajee, ex-MP, 2. V.L. Sunder Rao,

79

Sd/-

3. Sh. Alexander, ex-MP, 4. Com. Ram Kishan, ex-MP
5. Sh. Choudhary Ranbir Singh, ex-MP 6. Shri Shshi Bushal, ex-MP
7. Shri Mehar Chand Ahuja, ex-MLC 8. Captain S.S. Yadav, INA
9. Shri Jagat Ram Joshi 10. Com. Chanan Singh.

.....

Dy No. 5628 Secy. (E)/85
Date 18/9/85



सत्यमेव जयते

G.S. Iyer
Deputy Chief of Mission

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03(262) 2391

No.TOK/457/1/85

September 12, 1985

Dear Ranjiv,

I am enclosing the translation of a letter received from the Chairman of Subhash Chandra Bose Academy suggesting that the Prime Minister visit the Renkoji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Bose are kept.

2. Ministry is fully aware of the status of the ashes which have been the subject of debate in India in the past because of the firm faith of many people in our country that Netaji Bose did not die in the Taipei air crash soon after the surrender of Japan in the war. However, we make a modest contribution annually to the proper upkeep of the ashes which the Japanese say are those of Netaji Bose, through the discretionary funds available with the Ambassador.

3. As far as visits to the temple are concerned, most of the leaders who made official visit in Japan in the past have been to the Renkoji Temple. Prime Minister Nehru and Prime Minister Smt. Gandhi were there during their official visits in 1957 and 1969 respectively. President Rajendra Prasad who visited Japan a little after Prime Minister Nehru also visited the Temple. So did Foreign Ministers, S/Shri A.B. Vajpayee and P.V. Narasimha Rao, during their visits for bilateral talks in 1978 and 1982.

4. So much for the facts which provide adequate precedents. At the same time, we should note that the generation which had associations with the Netaji is rapidly passing from the scene and the majority of the Japanese do not have any memories or sensitivities about this matter. The Embassy is represented in the ceremonies held in the Temple on August 18 and 19 every year to mark the passing away of the Netaji. During the past few years, we find that the only people who visit are retired members of the Imperial Armed Forces or Civil or Intelligence Services who had personal acquaintance or working relationship with Netaji Bose or the INA. This is obviously a fast diminishing group and, in spite of being a genuine link in the past, somewhat tangential to our concerns at present. From the point of view of impact on the public or on the administration of friendly relationships, our assessment is that this will be of marginal utility. The other aspects I have mentioned above, like the history of the visits as well as the facts

These are on
our side!

9/534/3/81-002

(82)

~~Dear~~

September 9, 1985

His Excellency Mr. Madhavan,
Indian Ambassador to Japan.

Dear Sir,

I am grateful if you make a special arrangement so that His Excellency Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi could visit the Renkoji Temple, 3-30, Wada, Suginami-ku, Tokyo, where ashes of late Chandra Bose have been kept, on his scheduled visit to Japan.

Sincerely yours,

Chu Katakura
Chairman of S. Chandra Bose
Academy

83

SECRET 74

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SECRETARY (EAST)'S OFFICE

Dy. No. 3029 Secy. (E)/85
Date 24/9/85

Placed below is a letter from our DCM in the Embassy of India, Tokyo, which will be self-explanatory, and concerns the possible visit of PM to the Renkoji Temple where the supposed ashes of Netaji Subhas-h Chandra Bose, are kept.

2. In view of Prime Minister Nehru having visited the Temple earlier and the more recent visits of our Foreign Ministers, the last one being of Shri P.V.Narasimha Rao in 1982, the proposal will have to be considered in its functional as well as political aspects. While the authenticity of the ashes is certainly suspect, nevertheless in view of an invitation having been addressed to our Embassy, the decision is in my view one to be taken purely on political considerations and the effect that it may have on Indian public opinion.

(A.P.Venkateswaran)
Secretary(East)
21 Sept. 1985

Dy. No. 6110 Secy. (E)/85
Date 7/10/85

Dy. No. 5878 Secy. (E)/85
Date 23/9/85

3718 - PMF/85
24/9/85

AS(PMO) (Shri Gharekhan).

Grateful if I can have a little more background about the status of the ashes. Also, whether the ashes are in Tokyo & how much time would such a visit involve.

Gharekhan
23.9

PM agrees to visit the Renkoji Temple. Upendra 6.10

Sanjay (E) - MEA
PM's Office
Dated 24-9-85
4003-15
25/9/85
14.6/AS/C7/85
23/9

NO. 3827-PMF/85
7-10-85
Noted - 426/85
At 7.10.85
He 4 PM

below. The ashes are, of course, suspect but have authenticity in the eyes of most Bengalis who revere the memory of Subash Chandra Bose. However, the Khosla Commission and the Shah Nawaz Commission had opined that probably they are authentic. Government have not determined the genuineness, but are still paying a grant for its upkeep.

The Renkoji temple is in Tokyo City itself, as confirmed by our Embassy and will take about an hour to complete the visit. If time permits, it may be included -

Dy No. 5628 Secy. (E)/85
Date 18/9/85



G.S. Iyer
Deputy Chief of Mission

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03(262)2391

No.TOK/457/1/85

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3. As far as visits to the temple are concerned, most of the leaders who made official visit in Japan in the past have been to the Renkoji Temple. Prime Minister Nehru and Prime Minister Smt. Gandhi were there during their official visits in 1957 and 1969 respectively. President Rajendra Prasad who visited Japan a little after Prime Minister Nehru also visited the Temple. So did Foreign Ministers, S/Shri A.B. Vajpayee and P.V. Narasimha Rao, during their visits for bilateral talks in 1978 and 1982.

4. So much for the facts which provide adequate precedents. At the same time, we should note that the generation which had associations with the Netaji is rapidly passing from the scene and the majority of the Japanese do not have any memories or sensitivities about this matter. The Embassy is represented in the ceremonies held in the Temple on August 18 and 19 every year to mark the passing away of the Netaji. During the past few years, we find that the only people who visit are retired members of the Imperial Armed Forces or Civil or Intelligence Services who had personal acquaintance or working relationship with Netaji Bose or the INA. This is obviously a fast diminishing group and, in spite of being a genuine link in the past, somewhat tangential to our concerns at present. From the point of view of impact on the public or on the administration of friendly relationships, our assessment is that this will be of marginal utility. The other aspects I have mentioned above, like the history of the visits as well as the facts

These are on
one side!

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Seen

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September 9, 1985

His Excellency Mr. Madhavan,
Indian Ambassador to Japan.

Dear Sir,

I am grateful if you make a special arrangement so that His Excellency Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi could visit the Renkoji Temple, 3-30, Wada, Suginami-ku, Tokyo, where ashes of late Chandra Bose have been kept, on his scheduled visit to Japan.

Sincerely yours,

Chu Katakura
Chairman of S. Chandra Bose
Academy

(86)

(28)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

78

No.C/551/13/81-JP
Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

.....

Subject: Memorandum presented to PM by All India Freedom Fighters Organisation - request regarding bringing the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Tokyo.

...

Ministry of Home Affairs may please refer to their U.O. No. 3/13/85-FF(P) dated 16.9.1985.

52526)

2. The question of bringing to India the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, from the Renkoj's temple in Tokyo has been considered by the Government on several occasions. However, as the Organisation of Freedom Fighters may be aware there is a controversy surrounding this question including the serious reservations expressed by some members of the Netaji's family. This controversy has figured in our media and also in the Parliament from time to time. Government certainly holds Netaji in very high esteem, but are reluctant to do anything which might add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains.

3. There is need for a national consensus on this question before the Government takes a formal decision so that a controversy regarding Netaji's death and the genuineness of the ashes in any form, is avoided at a later stage.

4. Ministry of Home Affairs, while considering the above aspects, may send a suitable reply accordingly.

(A.L. Srivastava)
Deputy Secretary (EA)
9.10.1985.

OK

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Freedom Fighters Division
(Shri K.N. Singh, Under Secretary)
North Block, New Delhi.

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26/2
10/10

(29)

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~~SECRET~~

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

....

Subject: Return of the ashes of Netaji
Subash Chander Bose.

....

The Japanese have been pressing us to accept the ashes of Netaji which are kept in the Renkoji Temple at Tokyo. The Government of India has not been able to take an appropriate decision on the matter because of the controversy, in our Parliament and outside, particularly over Netaji's 'disappearance' or 'non-appearance' and particularly due to the opposition from the immediate family members of Netaji.

2. The Government of India had appointed a Committee in 1956 headed by late Shah Nawaz Khan, which included Shri S.C. Bose, the elder brother of Netaji. The Shah Nawaz Committee had come to the conclusion that Netaji met his death in an air crash on 18 August 1945 and that the ashes in Renkoji Temple, Tokyo were his ashes. Shri S.C. Bose, the elder brother of Netaji had, however, given his dissenting views.

3. The controversy, however, continued. A petition signed by more than 350 Members of Parliament was presented to the President of India demanding an appropriately constituted judicial inquiry into the matter. A One-Man Justice G.D. Khosla Commission of Inquiry was accordingly appointed on 11 July 1970. Justice Khosla also 'concluded' that the casket lodged in the Renkoji Temple at Tokyo contained Bose's ashes.

4. In January 1982, Shri S.C. Bose, brother of Netaji, wrote to our Prime Minister saying "there's no convincing proof that the so-called ashes are genuine and that of my brother.... Under the circumstances, it would be wrong to pass off the so-called ashes as genuinely being that of Netaji". He opposed the ashes being brought to India.

5. In reply to a Lok Sabha Question on 25 Feb. 1982 it was stated by our then Foreign Minister that Government had taken note of the views expressed by Shri S.C. Bose. Again in answer to a Lok Sabha Question on 25 March 1982, Foreign Minister observed, "various opinions have been expressed regarding the urn said to contain Netaji's ashes and that Government have noted the views of all concerned with a view to deciding on the most appropriate course of action".

6. In 1957, Prime Minister Nehru had visited Renkoj Temple. Smt. Indira Gandhi had also visited it in 1969. Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the then Minister of External Affairs had paid a visit to the Temple in April 1982.

7. The ashes are, of course, suspect but have authenticity in the eyes of most Bengalis who revere the memory of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

8. Netaji's ashes have remained at Renkoj Temple Tokyo for almost 40 years. We are paying a grant for its upkeep. We may have to continue the arrangement for some time - may be for some years - possibly till the hundredth anniversary in 1997 of Netaji's birthday. There is need for a national consensus on this question before the Government can take a formal decision so that the controversy over Netaji's death and the genuineness of the ashes is avoided at a later stage.

22.11.85

given by S(EA)
for P.M. Japan visit
(28/11 - 1/12/85)

~~SECRET~~

राजदूत

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

AMBASSADOR

EMBASSY OF INDIA

TOKYO

October 10, 1985

No.Tok/457/1/85

My dear Secretary,

Please refer to your telegram No.34587— regarding the inclusion of visit to Renkoji Temple in PM's programme. I am following up my telegram No.146 - para.3.

2. I immediately conveyed our decision to the Gaimusho. Kawamura had spoken to Iyer on 7.10.85 and expressed the Japanese preference for omitting this item from the programme. I enclose Iyer's note. On the 8th, when I mentioned to Kawamura that the Indian side would like to include Renkoji Temple in the programme, Kawamura alluded to his conversation with Iyer and implied that the Government of India was taking a somewhat inconsistent stand. To explain, the point he was making was that the Indian Prime Minister going to the Renkoji temple did not square well with the Indian Government's consistent refusal over the years to accept the return of the ashes of Netaji. I told him frankly that we had our own internal sensitivities to consider. When Shri Nehru and Smt.Indira Gandhi had gone to the Temple during their visits to Japan, there would be an expectation in some quarters in India that Shri Rajiv Gandhi should also do so. As for the return of the ashes, I explained that, in view of the controversies it might ignite in India, we found it prudent to continue existing arrangements for the maintenance of the urn containing ashes in the Renkoji Temple. He accepted the logic quite well.

3. Gaimusho's hesitation about Renkoji Temple may be due to the association of Netaji with the Japanese war-time leaders. This is a super-sensitive issue which the Japanese would like to forget, except that it obtrudes into current politics on such symbolic occasions as the visit on August 15, 1985 by Prime Minister Nakasone to the Yasukuni Shrine. China has made sure that the world knows about its extreme sensitivity over any tendency on Japan's part to honour its war-time leaders, even in the guise of honouring war dead. One of the objectives of current Abe's Mission is to assuage Chinese feelings on this score. We have just heard that Nakasone is passing up another occasion, on October 17, to visit the Yasukuni Shrine. He told the Foreign Correspondents Club on 7th October that the matter had been referred for study to senior advisers. In this context, the Japanese perhaps fear that our PM's visit to the Renkoji Temple may provoke some associated memories in the wrong quarters, and embarrass the Japanese Government. All this is my own speculation. I am not discussing it with the Japanese, judging that it is really too sensitive a matter to talk about.

4. The Japanese can have no objection to our PM visiting the Temple; after there is an invitation for him

(ao)

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to visit it. But I think we should be sensitive to their feelings and avoid giving publicity to it in Japan, and keep it private. Publicity given in India to this visit will not harm Japan. But even this could be kept moderate, in view of the political sensitivities even in India.

5. Technically, it is the Chairman of the Subhash Chander Bose Academy, Gen. Katakura, who has invited the PM. He had come to see me on July 4, as I wrote on 12 July. He is more than 80 years' old. Perhaps he had not consulted the Gaimusho. We are getting in touch with his people and the Temple Administration to see how visit can be organised. The precedents will help.

6. During PM's visit to the Temple they will expect some clarification of our stand about the return of the ashes. I know it is a delicate subject, and during my consultation duty in August/September, I had discussed it fully with Joint Secretary(EA), R.S.Kalha. After this I agreed to modify the views I had expressed in my letter on 12th July. The dilemma is essentially one to be resolved at the political level, given the fact that Netaji remains a controversial figure in our national memory and the subject of emotional fervour, sometimes conflicting with history and facts, in Bengal. But the dilemma has to be addressed some day and we should, I feel, in all fairness, explain to the 'Bose Academy what we intend to do. Perhaps we could tell them that in the course of the next few years, when the controversy about Netaji's end subsides, we would have internal consultations among our political groups and outline steps for the return of the ashes or for the building of a memorial in India. Meanwhile, we could promise continued support for the maintenance of the ashes in their present abode.

With warm regards

Yours sincerely,



(A. Madhavan)

Shri A.P. Venkateswaran,
Secretary(East),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

Encl: One.

(a1)

~~Secret~~

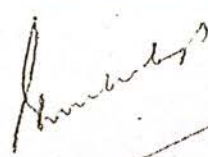
EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO

I have separately recorded a note on the programme aspects of the Prime Minister's visit discussed by Director Kawamura with me on October 7. We have already cabled the Ministry on these details.

2. After we concluded these discussions, Kawamura raised the question of the trip to Renkoji Temple and asked me about our plans to do so. I told him that the Temple authorities have invited the Prime Minister and we have agreed to accept the invitation. He would also recall that Indian Prime Ministers visiting Tokyo had always been to the Temple as did President Rajendra Prasad. Kawamura then told me that he perceived a certain lack of logic in our attitude in that we wanted to have our leaders visit the Temple and pay respects to the ashes of Subhash Chandra Bose but we do not want to take the ashes back to India. This could be a cause of embarrassment for the Japanese side. I told him that the entire question of the passing away of Netaji Bose is still not absolutely settled and he was aware that a large number of people in India do not accept that Bose died in the crash in Taipei. This has been the subject of many studies and commissions of enquiry and is not an easy problem to solve. Therefore, if there is a contradiction or lack of logic, all of us will have to live with it as we live with many such illogical situations in life.

3. Then I told Kawamura that as far as the Prime Minister visiting Renkoji Temple is concerned, it has been decided that PM will be doing so and will have to take action on that basis. The visit of Shrimati Gandhi was described as a private visit and there should not be any problem if that practice is followed in the present case too, if the Japanese have any difficulty on this matter.

4. Since then, I have discussed the programme of the Prime Minister's visit with Kawamura as well as Deputy Chief of Protocol Asami on October 9 and these details have been cabled yesterday. We noted the Renkoji Temple question but Kawamura did not make any comment.



(G.S. Iyer)
Deputy Chief of Mission
11.10.85

Ambassador



4465
11/11/85

(A2)
85
31

~~SECRET.~~

सचिव
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No. 6466/Secy(E)/85

30 October 1985

My dear

This is to acknowledge your letters both No. TOK/457/1/85 dated October 10, regarding the visit to the Renkoji Temple and on the ambivalence of the Japanese attitude in regard to India, which you have analysed so well.

2. As far as the visit to the Renkoji Temple is concerned, it will be a private visit, as agreed in a meeting this morning with Smt. Sarla Grewal, Secretary to PM. Let me also assure you that I am in full agreement with para 4 of your letter that "the Embassy should be a HiFi channel of communications" reflecting all the nuances of the bilateral relationship. I admire your comment to Kawamura that "reciprocity on negative points should not predominate over reciprocity on positive points".

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
o/e (A.P. Venkateswaran)

[Handwritten notes: RLC 6/11, JS (E) I, EAD 7/11]
Shri A. Madhavan,
Ambassador of India,
TOKYO.

B(EA)

VS

(a3)

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

9465/EAD/85

20/12

I am enclosing a letter which the Prime Minister has received from Shri R.K. Sekhar, Convenor of the South East Asia Netaji Research Centre.

~~The Prime Minister~~ Shri Sekhar has suggested that the Indian Government should request the Government of Japan to return the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose to India. These are presently being kept in the Renkoji Buddhist Temple in Tokyo and, according to Shri Sekhar, are not being properly looked after.

We would be grateful if the Ministry of External Affairs could process this request and reply to Shri Sekhar under intimation to us.

yshankar

(MEERA SHANKAR)
DEPUTY SECRETARY

Shri R.S. Kalha,
Joint Secretary(EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

P.M.'s Office U.O. No. *lml-572*

18/12/85

On file

He

19/12

DS(EA) II

ETD

20/12

(44)

SOUTH EAST ASIA NETAJI RESEARCH CENTRE

~~Head Office : 44, British Consulate, Madras 600 039.~~

CONVENOR:

Lt. R. K. SEKHAR

(Tokyo Cadet Officer)

Office of the

TAMIL NADU CELL:

1205, 17th Central Cross Road,
Mahakavi Bharathi Nagar,
MADRAS-600 039.

Date22-11-85.....

P.M.'s OFFICE

-4 DEC 1985

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to know through the press that Mr. Yasuhiro-Nakasone, Prime Minister of Japan has officially invited you to visit Japan to the land of the Rising Sun. It was not therefore surprising that no Japanese Prime Minister cared to visit India for the last 23 years, until Mr. Y. Nakasone paid a brief trip to New Delhi last year. It was only our beloved late Mrs. Indira Gandhi stopped over for a day in Tokyo in 1982 on her way back from the U.S., and Indian Prime Minister will be paying an official visit after an interval of 16 years, and now your goodself had accepted the invitation and goes to Japan at the end of this month.

In this circumstances I, on behalf of my colleagues of the Ex-INA Tokyo Officer (Cadets) who was specially selected and sent to Japan by late Netaji Subas Chandra Bose to undergo Japanese, Military officers Training at the Imperial Japanese Military Academy, at Tokyo, during our Indian Independence movement in East Asia, at the Second world war. I, now wish to bring to your kind notice about the press statement and appeal made to our beloved late Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India on April 84, by Mr. Nakasone, and he offered to return late Netaji Subas Chandra Bose Ashes which is lying virtually for almost for the last 40 years. The same ashes was brought from Taiwan in August 1945, and the Ashes were kept at the Residence of Mr. A.M. Sahay (who was a ex-minister in Netaji's cabinet) at Tokyo. We, 45 INA officers and the local Indians observed a sermony for 11 days and guarded secretly day and night without knowing the Americans. Then on the 12th day the Japanese Foreign officer, officials and we INA officers remove the Ashes from Mr. A.M. Sahay's Residence and they made arrangements to deposit at RENKOJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE in Nakano area at Tokyo.

The Head priest of the Temple with whom we deposited is no more, now his son is looking after the temple. He is not giving much importance and care to look after the Ashes. Therefore, the elderly Japanese officers who had more attachment with late Netaji are much worried and they are giving more pressure to us for the removal of the Ash from Japan to India.

In this regard almost our Ex-presidents of India, our late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehruji, and late Mrs. Indira Gandhi visited the Renkoji Buddhist Temple (26th June 1969) and paid their respect to the departed Hero Netaji, and they had signed in the visitors book. I am now enclosing a photostate copy of our late Dr. Rajendra Prasad and late Nehruji photos during their visit to the Renkoji Buddhist Temple. But for the last 40 years none of our National Leaders and our Indian Government made any attempt to bring the Ashes of Netaji Subas Chandra Bose to India with repeated request and appeal made jointly by the Japanese authorities, and we INA Tokyo officers (supposed to be adopted sons of late Netaji Subas Bose)

Though Indo-Japanese relations have been traditionally good with no conflicts of interest since their paths have not crossed at any time in the History of these two great Asian Nations. But we Indians fail, and never trusted their words. On the whole the Indian people have known very little of Japan history, and culture, its values and traditions, except in a general way about their achievements. For centuries long, western propaganda had portrayed Japan, particularly during the colonial period, and we Indians and our National leaders gave more importance to U.K, U.S.A and other European countries.

Handwritten notes:
10/11/85
Direct
For you
12/12
DS/M
yphankar
16/12

958

(83)

Office of the
TAMIL NADU CELL:

Lt. R. K. SEKHAR

(Tokyo Cadet Officer)

1205, 17th Central Cross Road,
Mahakavi Bharathi Nagar,
MADRAS-600 039.

Date

-2-

For your information I may tell you after the Atom Bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki compelling Japan to surrender, but during their regime they gave Independence to fellow Asian countries Philippines, Indo-China, Thailand, Indonesia and Burma which no other western countries offered freedom at their sacrifices. Though they are very cordial and maintaining good relations with the Asian countries, but the average Japanese whether he is a politician, Diplomat, Intellectual, Technocrat or Businessman, does not still understand what exactly our Indian objectives.

During the war period from each East Asian countries they selected and sent their students to the Japanese Military officers Training at the Imperial Military Academy, Tokyo along with us. National China 60 cadets, Burma 30 cadets, 'philippines' 5 cadets. Thailand 5 cadets, Indonesia 5 cadets. We Indians 45 cadets, When all of them returned to their countries after Independence, every one of them was included in their Cabinet as Ministers and Diplomats and they still continuing their service to the country. In Burma the 30 so called Comrades are ruling their country and the leaders observed them in their government. Whereas as we, many in India like me (54 years) are rotting in corner of India, and am ashamed to say that we are struggling for our daily bread. Half of them left India and settled in Foreign Countries. We are part and parcel of the Congress Organisation ever since we returned to India and we still remain loyal to our Congress.

When Netaji Subas Chandra Bose took over the Indian National Army he sought the blessing of Congress leaders, and he gave more importance to Gandhiji and Nehruji. I am herewith enclosing a photostate copy of few photographs which will speak about Netaji and how he was loyal to our Congress movement.

Finally, I appeal to you for two things in the name of Netaji and the INA to discuss with Mr. Nakasone and Gen. Iwachi Fujiwara for the arrangement to bring back the Ashes of Netaji to India. The second thing is to construct a joint monument to ~~erect~~ a war memorial for the INA soliders and the Japanese soldiers who laid down their lives for the freedom of India. This two issues are pending from late Nehruji, ^{my appeal about} period. Therefore now I request you to consider ^{the Hero} Netaji's ^{and his} last part of his freedom movement and the INA chapter is still in ^{complete} to end the History of his biography. ~~For Netaji's~~ ^{your decision} ~~will be indebted to you.~~

AS you are going to witness and will be meeting the Japanese Government and the people of Japan, you will find a vast difference from the country you visited after assuming as Prime Minister of India. It is in full awareness of all these factors that you have to take a conscious decision to explore the possibilities of greater co-operation with Japan before touring to other industrialised countries for mutual assistance while in Japan, I am sure you will make use of this good opportunity to strengthen our Relationship in the interest of our two countries.

Jai Hind.

Yours faithfully,

R.K. Sekhar
R.K. SEKHAR
(convenor)
Ex-INA

Encl:

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi,
Prime Minister of India,
No. 1, Akbar Road, NEW DELHI - 110001.

Nakasone will offer to return Netaji's ashes

From K. V. Narain

TOKYO, April 13-54

The Japanese Prime Minister, Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, is expected to ask the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, when he pays an official visit to India early next month, to take back the mortal remains of the late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. They have been lying virtually forgotten on the shelves of the Renkoji Buddhist temple in Tokyo's Nakano area for almost 40 years now.

The proposal to return Netaji's ashes was made to Mr. Nakasone today by Mr. Masayuki Fujio, chief policy planner of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, who asked him to convey the plan to Mrs. Gandhi when he meets her in Delhi. Officials said Mr. Nakasone accepted the proposal.

Netaji was badly burned and died a few hours after the Japanese military plane in which he was travelling to Japan from Saigon two days after Japan's surrender, crashed at the Taipei airport in Taiwan where it had landed for refuelling. The remains were brought back to Japan and kept temporarily in the Renkoji temple pending its return to India. However, efforts by both the Japanese and Indian Governments have been aborted by opposition to the plan from Netaji's supporters in his home State who have maintained that he is still alive.

Mr. Fujio, a journalist-turned politician, said he was a correspondent in Burma for the *Yomiuri Shimbun* towards the end of the war when Netaji was in Burma leading the INA forces.

ARZI HUKUMATE AZAD HIND.
(THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF FREE INDIA.)

Lahore
29.11.44

My dear boy
On the eve of my taking off
from the soil of Japan, I want to send you
my love and all good wishes for the success
of your work. I have no son of my own -
but you are to me more than my own son -
because you have dedicated your life to the
cause, which is the one and only goal of
my life - the freedom of "Bharat Mata".
I am confident that you will always remain
true to the CAUSE, and to "Bharat Mata".

I am sorry that I could not see you
again before leaving - but you know that I
am always with you in spirit.

God bless you

Subhas

11/11/44

印度国民軍(I.N.A)の処罰を撤回 ©1946年

日本軍と共に戦ったボースの率いる国民軍は、叛逆罪として裁かれた。英は面子にかけても厳罰に処す方針だった。この裁判は英国とインドの最後の戦いとなった。ネルー、パテルら弁護士の格をもつ指導者は久しぶりで法衣をまとうて弁護団を組織した。マハトマ・ガンディーも国民軍を処罰すれば重大な結果を招く……と、ウェーベル総督宛威しの手紙を出している。結果全員無罪だった。英国の完全敗北である。

(97) I.N.A were judged guilty by England. But, Nehru, Patel and Gandhi helped them. (Mahatma)



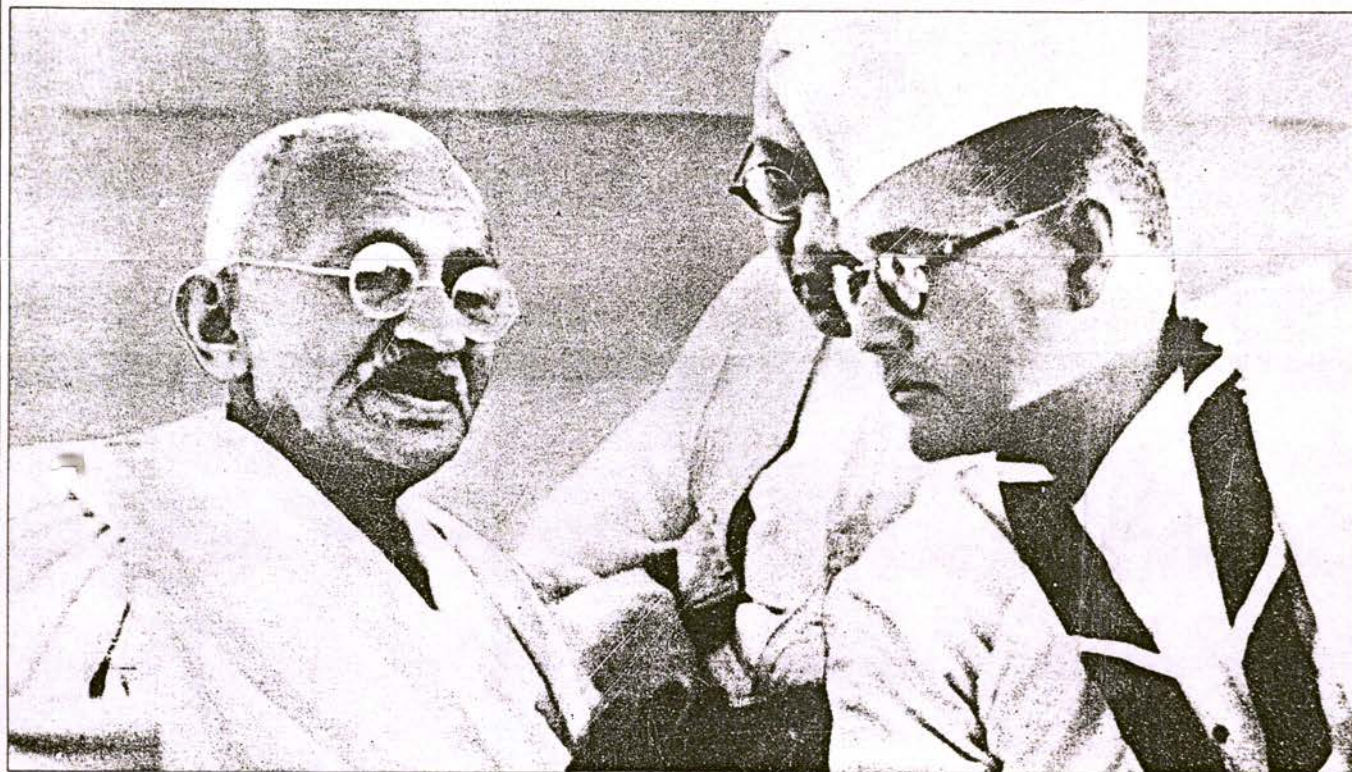
Gandhiji is enjoying the INA songs is played by (Violin) Capt. Ramsingh. Gurka Regiment.

スバース・チャンドラ・ボース ©1938年 ハリプーラ Haripura

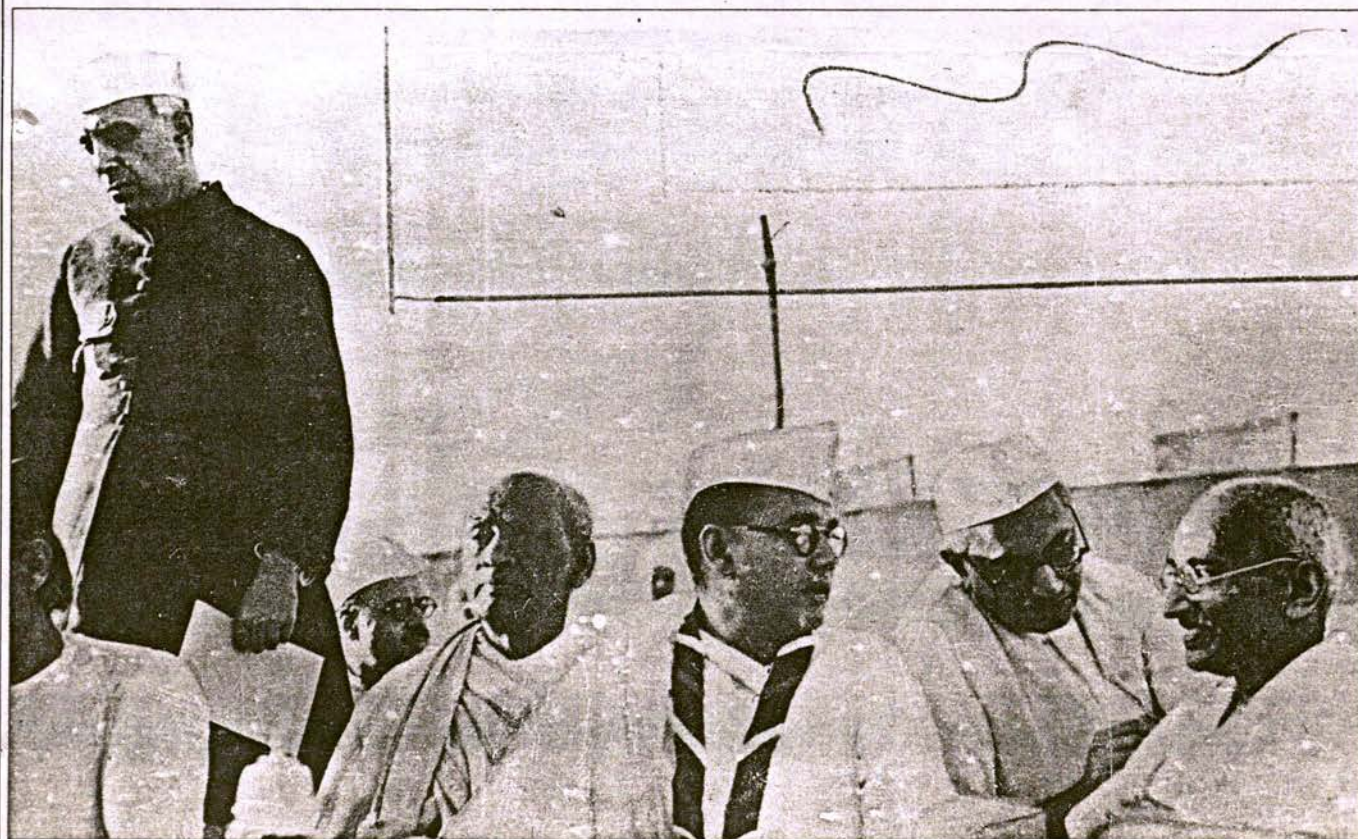
ガンディーとボースはこの大会で意見が決裂した。だがボースが
 ガンディーと師と仰ぐ心情はネルーに劣るものではなかった。ビ
 ルマ戦線に出た印度国民軍が、最前戦にあって、マハトマ・ガン
 ディー・キージャイノ(ガンディー万歳ノ)と叫んでいたことを知
 る人は少ない。ボースの思想についてなお一考を要する。

M. Gandhi and Mr. Bose.

I.N.A (his army) cried "Mahatma
 Gandhi. Klee-jay"



ジャワハルラル・ネルー ◎左:初代インド国首相(現首相の父)





सत्यमेव जयते

33

99

D:ND/03/JSEA/86

1-1-86

SECRET

राजदूत

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
AMBASSADOR
EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO

No.TOK/551/1/81,

27 December 1985.

17/DS EA/86

(44) EA/86

6/1/86.

My dear Rangit,

Please refer to Secretary(East)'s letter No.6466/Secy(E)/95, dated 30 October 1985, regarding Renkoji Temple, where the ashes of Netaji Subhash Bose are kept.

2. As you know, P.M. did not go to the Temple during his visit to Tokyo from 28th to 30th November 1985, although a private visit to the Temple had been earlier envisaged by us.

3. The problem of defining our attitude remains. I hope you will be able to obtain some guidelines from the Secretaries and Ministers, perhaps on the basis of paragraph 6 of my letter No.TOK/457/1/85, dated 10 October 1985. In my earlier letter of even number dated 12 July 1985, I had suggested that the daughter of Subhash Chandra Bose may also be consulted. Perhaps the best way to have a non-official committee of public figures to deal with the question of funding a suitable memorial for Netaji Subhash Bose in India.

Regards

Yours sincerely,

(Signature)

(A. Madhavan)

Shri R.S. Kalha,
Joint Secretary (EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

R.S. Kalha,
Joint Secretary(EA).

100
~~SECRET~~

83
Personal

No.C/551/13/81-JP.

15 January, 1986.

My dear

33/Com
Please refer to your letter no.TOK/551/1/81 dated 27th December, 1985 regarding the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. I am sure you ^{are} fully aware of the sensitivities of this case. This matter was discussed extensively during your last visit to New Delhi in August, 1985 and you had also indicated that you had met and received the views of Shri P.V.Narasimha Rao, our former External Affairs Minister, in this connection. You had indicated that you understood the implications and that there was no need to alter the status quo and that the matter be allowed to rest.

3. The file as well as your letter were shown and discussed with Secretary(E) who has indicated that it is incomprehensible why the matter should be raised again. He has asked me to inform you of the above and would therefore be grateful that the position indicated above is maintained.

Yours sincerely,

ec (R.S. Kalha).

Shri A. Madhavan,
Ambassador of India,
Tokyo.

Issued

15/11

DS (E.A.)

15/11

101.
33
C/531/13/51-17

January 16, 55

Shri R.R. Saha,
Convener,
South East Asia Netaji Research Centre,
(Thail Nadu Cell),
1208, 17th Central Cross Road,
Mahakavi Bharati Nagar,
MADRAS - 600 039.

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your letter dated 13rd November, 1955 addressed to the Prime Minister, the contents of which have been noted.

The question of bringing to India the ash of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from the Netaji temple in Tokyo, has been considered by the Government on several occasions. However, as you would be aware, there is controversy surrounding this question including the serious reservations expressed by some members of the Netaji's family. This controversy had figured in our media and also in the Parliament from time to time. Government certainly held Netaji in very high esteem but are reluctant to do anything which might add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains. There is a need for a national consensus on this issue.

As regards the other matter referred to by you namely the erection of a monument/war memorial for the INA/Japanese soldiers, the Japanese Government has also been in touch with us. We are obliged to take into consideration several factors including the local conditions in Manipur/Meghalaya.

We hope you will understand the position.

Yours faithfully,

sd/-

(A.L. Srivastava)

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

Copy for information to P.W. (dated 16th Dec. 55)
W.P. to their GO NO. P.W.-872-B

मन्त्रालय (ए.ए.)
(A.L. SRIVASTAVA)
उप सचिव (ए.ए.)
Deputy Secretary (A.A.)
विदेश विभाग (ए.ए.)
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi
New Delhi

Copy
17/1
D.S.



सत्यमेव जयते

AMBASSADOR

No.TOK/551/1/81

January 23, 1986

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO

My dear

Ranjit,

Please refer to your letter No.C/551/13/81-JP dated 15.1.86 regarding the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose in Renkoji temple, Tokyo.

2. I am sorry that my letter of 27th December 1985 has created difficulties for you. I fully understand the sensitive nature of the problem and accept the wisdom of leaving things alone. But the status quo which you would like to continue is precarious. An important factor is that Gen.Katakura, Chairman of the Subash Chandra Bose Academy, is about 85 years old. When I met Mr. Fujio, a senior LDP member last October, he spoke strongly in favour of India finding a home for the ashes, since they could not be safely kept in Japan indefinitely. (Extracts of DCM's note enclosed).

3. You have referred to our discussions in Delhi last August, as a result of which I had modified my views, as I said in my letter of 27th December. I had informed you of my conversation with Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, who, it is true, had broadly supported your approach. But he had also agreed that we should address the problem some time or other.

4. During PM's visit to Japan, there was no trip to Renkoji temple. I was not told why it was dropped. Till the delegation left Tokyo on 30th November 1985, there was a chance of the trip being made. All I knew was that there was a change of mind in Delhi after the meeting between Secretary(East) and Secretary to PM on 30 October 1985, wherein it had been decided that the Renkoji visit would be a private one. There was no time for us to discuss the matter during the visit, otherwise I would have

sought Secretary(East)'s views in detail.

5. I was hoping you would fill me in on the thinking at headquarters. Instead, you have written in a rather reproachful tone. You must have meant it for my good- lest I be blamed for raising a political hornet's nest. But consider my dilemma: it is embarrassing if I raise the problem and equally so if I do nothing.

6. The point is that we cannot rely on the status quo continuing for some more years. One of your predecessors, Shri Ranjit Sethi, had put it more forcefully than I have done in his note dated 2.12.1981. The Subash Bose centenary comes up in 1997, and I hope this will be resolved by then.

6. Kindly explain these difficulties to Secretary(East). I am content to follow the line of least resistance and accept your counsel of letting things be for the present.

Kirk kind regards

Yours sincerely



(A. Madhavan)

Shri R.S.Kalha
Joint Secretary(EA)
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi.

104

1902

(69

~~SECRET~~

Sono (36)

EXTRACT FROM RECORD OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR
AND MASAYUKI FUJIO, Chairman of Policy Research Council,
of LDP on October 25, 1985 (original material file to 1457115-0110
rint)

un/bc

Mr. Fujio then said that he had one request to make to the Ambassador. This was about the ashes of Netaji Bose whom he admired as a great statesman. It is 40 years now since the War and most of the friends of Bose have passed away. It is impossible now to take care of his ashes in a proper manner. He added that he was aware of difficulties that our Government had in accepting the ashes and understood them. If the Government had some difficulty, it would be worthwhile to see whether a private group of Netaji's friends and associates in India could come to Japan and take over the ashes so that they are kept with the respect due to them because it may become difficult later in Japan.

Extract

105
36
MOST IMMEDIATE

Ministry of External Affairs
Coordination Section

Dy.No:1170/Cdn/86

Sl.No:(1)Receipt

Placed below is a court notice regarding the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

EA Division may please see for n/a. if any.

Sd/-
(illegible)
20/2/86

EA Division

DS(EA)

MOST IMMEDIATE

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

In the Hon'ble High Court's orders dated 18th January, 1986 it has been observed that after the writ petition was filed by Shri Nand Lal Sharma, notices were issued both to the State of Rajasthan and the Union of India but none of them cared to file any reply or to produce relevant material before the court. It has also been mentioned that Shri B.P. Gupta, learned standing counsel for the Union of India submitted that he had received no instructions though he had contacted Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

Evidently, the court notice and Shri B.P. Gupta's communication if any should have been received in the Ministry, and either dealt with or filed somewhere. EA Division had not received any such papers.

Coordination Division may please see where these papers are.

JS(EA) may like to see at this stage.

Sd/-
(A.L. Srivastava)
DS(EA)
24/2/86

JS(EA)

Grateful if papers are urgently located. Meanwhile DS(EA) should also personally follow-up the case.

Sd/-
(R.S. Kalha)
JS(EA) 24/2/86 P.T.O.

55/10/21-12

92)
106

DS(EA)

SECRET

Sd/-
(A.L. Srivastava)
DS(EA)
24/2/86

JS (Coord)

See s No 37 h 42

11/11/86

11/11/86

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11/11/86

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

In the Hon'ble High Court's order dated 18th January, 1986 it has been observed that after the writ petition was filed by Sri Lal Sharma, notices were issued both to the State of Rajasthan and the Union of India but none of them came to the notice of the Union of India. It was also mentioned that Sri S. S. Gupta, learned advocate counsel for the Union of India, submitted to the Hon'ble High Court that he had contacted the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, and requested him to produce the material before the court. It was also mentioned that Sri S. S. Gupta, learned advocate counsel for the Union of India, submitted to the Hon'ble High Court that he had contacted the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, and requested him to produce the material before the court.

11/11/86

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11/11/86

क्रमांक 1231

(107)

दिनांक 12/2/1986

प्रेषक :-
अतिरिक्त रजिस्ट्रार,
राजस्थान उच्च न्यायालय पीठ,
जयपुर (राज०)।

प्रेषित :-
The Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Union of India, South Block,
Central Secretariat, New Delhi
NEW-DELHI

विषय :-

S.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 902/84.
Nandlal Sharma Vs. Chief Secretary, State of Raj.
Jaipur and Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi

सन्दर्भ :-

Sir,

I am directed to send herewith a
Copy of the Order dated 18-1-86 passed
by this Honble Court while disposing of
the above noted Writ Petition, for
information and necessary compliance.
Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully.

Sankulchand
11-2-86.
Dy. Registrar.

35/12/18/2

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE FOR RAJASTHAN AT
JAIPUR BENCH JAIPUR

ORDER

Nand Lal Sharma

Vs. Chief Secretary, State of
Rajasthan and another.

S.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 902/1984
under Articles 226 and 51 of the Cons-
titution of India.

DATE OF ORDER : : : JANUARY 18, 1986

PRESENT

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.N. BHARGAVA

Shri Nand Lal Sharma, petitioner in person
Shri N.L. Pareek, Addl.GA
Shri B.P. Gupta, Standing Counsel for
Union of India.

BY THE COURT:

This is a writ petition filed by Shri Nand Lal Sharma on a very important national issue asking this court to order for starting an open judicial enquiry on international level to know about the whereabouts of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, a national hero, and further to order to set him free, if he is still confined as a war criminal in any country. The petition was filed on 26.7.84. Along with the writ petition, an application was also filed that this case should be put up before a full bench for admission. When the case came up before Hon'ble the Chief Justice he was pleased to order that the case may be put up for admission before me. The petitioner also filed an application giving the details of documents which



Signature
11/1/86

he wanted to be summoned from the non petitioner No. 2, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Union of India and he also filed some additional documents on 27th August, 1984. Notices to show cause were issued as to why the writ petition should not be admitted and notices of the said two applications were also sent to the non petitioners. On 15th March, 1985, Shri B.P. Gupta, Standing Counsel for the Union of India was called for and was directed to file reply of the writ petition within one month. Time was again sought by Shri Gupta on 8.5.85 and the case was fixed for 8th July, 1985. Thereafter, I was nominated for Jodhpur and the case was not listed before any other bench inspite of application for early hearing filed by the petitioner. The case came up before me on 18th October, 1985; till then, no reply was filed by either the State of Rajasthan or the Union of India. Shri B.P. Gupta, learned Standing Counsel for the Union of India submitted that he has received no instructions, though he had intimated the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs. The case was ordered to be put up on 4.11.85 and the non petitioners were permitted to file reply before that date. Again on 19.11.1985, Shri Gupta submitted that he has received no instructions till then, inspite of written communication. Learned Deputy Government Advocate submitted that he has received instructions not to conduct the writ petition on behalf of the State of Rajasthan. The petitioner

wanted time to file some additional affidavit and some interrogatories. The petitioner filed some more documents and also produced two printed books (1) NETAJI AZAD HIND FAUJ AND AFTER, BY R.M.KASLIWAL AND (2) AN INDIAN FREEDOM FIGHTER IN JAPAN, MEMOIRS OF A.M. NAIR. The case was taken up finally for arguments on 4.12.85. Shri B.P. Gupta still submitted that he has received no instructions and the Additional Government Advocate also reiterated that he had no instructions in the said matter. Hence, the petitioner was heard ex-parte in person and order was reserved.

The petitioner in this writ petition has submitted that he was a close colleague of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and played an important role for his ^{exit} ~~escape~~ from the prison and escaping out of India. In his petition, the petitioner has further submitted that two Commissions, namely, Shah Navaj Khan Commission and Justice Khosla Commission, appointed earlier by the Government of India to enquire into the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, could not come to any definite conclusion for the various reasons mentioned in the writ petition and according to the petitioner, the story that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in a plane crash in Famosa was a fabricated one as the co-passengers who were supposed to have been travelling in that plane have lived for long periods after the reported accident and the supposed death and the story that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose fled

सहायक न्यायाधीश
4/12/86
न्यायालय, दिल्ली
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away for his safety, deserting his people, could not be believed. The petitioner has also referred to the rumor that Netaji was confined in Neuremburg Fort (West Germany) as a war criminal and after his brain-wash, he was to be released. In his application dated 6.8.84, he has given a long list of documents which he wanted the non petitioner No. 2 to produce so that some definite conclusion could be reached. In that application, he further assured that he will be submitting list of Indian and foreign witnesses who are willing to get their statements recorded and to cooperate if fresh enquiry was ordered. He also produced some extracts of the diary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. He has also produced a newspaper Rajasthan Patrika (English Edition), dated 18th August, 1985 containing an Article concerning Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. He also produced an affidavit of Dr. R.M. Kasliwal to the effect that whatever he had written in his book 'Netaji, Aazad Hind Fauz and after' is correct and true to the best of his personal knowledge and belief and specially in Preface on pages between (iii) and (iv) and in Epilogue on pages 69 to 73. Another book produced by the petitioner namely, An Indian Freedom Fighter in Japan, Memoirs of A.M. Nair containing a Chapter No.28, the Disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose' from pages 272 to 284, in which the whole episode has been discussed in detail and doubts have been expressed as to whether Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died on account of plane crash, as alleged.

11/12/84
1112/84

I have considered the whole matter. It cannot be denied that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was a great national hero and a great freedom fighter. He had led strong revolutionary freedom movement in India and commands a great respect from the people of India. It is true that the Government of India was also concerned in this matter and appointed two Commissions namely Shah Nawaj Khan Commission and Justice Khosla Commission to enquire into the whole matter regarding the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose but the people were not satisfied with the manner in which these Commissions functioned and there has been demand from the public that some other Commission should be appointed to go into the whole question afresh and it is in that direction only that the present writ petition has been filed. Notices were issued both to the State of Rajasthan and the Union of India, but it is very unfortunate that none of them have cared to file any reply of the writ petition and produce relevant material before this court to come to some definite conclusion. Either because the Union of India is indifferent to this question as the matter had already been enquired more than once or the Government of India itself is not satisfied with the reports of the two Commissions and therefore, does not want to contest the writ petition which has been filed for ordering a fresh enquiry into the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Since no reply has been



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11/2/86
11/2/86

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- 6 -

filed on behalf of the respondents and no relevant documents have been produced in the court, it is not possible to come to a definite conclusion that the two earlier Commissions did not hold the enquiry properly or there were some inherent improbabilities. I do not think it proper to order a fresh enquiry without examining the whole matter which cannot be done without the assistance of the Union of India.

In the facts and circumstances, I think it proper to issue a direction to the non petitioner No. 2 to look into the matter dispassionately and ^ahear the petitioner in person patiently and examine the documents and the evidence that he wants to produce in support of his contention, and then come to a definite conclusion. In my opinion, six months time will be sufficient for the Union of India to examine the whole matter afresh with open mind and if necessary, invite public in general to produce material whatever it want in this connection before coming to a prima facie decision as to whether fresh Commission is necessary or not. Petitioner should submit all his papers, evidence and other material before Government of India and time of six months will start from the date the material is filed by the petitioner.

The writ petition, is therefore, disposed of accordingly.

Sd/- M. Bhargava

114

37

MOST IMMEDIATE

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

Reg: Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

In the Hon'ble High Court's orders dated 18th January, 1986 it has been observed that after the writ petition was filed by Shri Band Lal Sharma, notices were issued both to the State of Rajasthan and the Union of India but none of them cared to file any reply or to produce relevant material before the court. It has also been mentioned that Shri B.P. Gupta, learned standing counsel for the Union of India submitted that he had received no instructions though he had intimated Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs. *contacted*

Evidently, the court notice and Shri B.P. Gupta's communication if any, should have been received in the Ministry, ^{and} either dealt with or filed somewhere. EA Division had not received any such papers.

Coordination Division may please see where these papers are.

JS (EA) may like to see at this stage.

(A.L. Srivastava)
Deputy Secretary (EA)
24.2.86

JS (EA)

JS (Coord)

US (EAI)

E/2

27/2

2. Have again asked Coord section to do the needful (on 27.2.86) Original note sent to JS (Coord). This copy be kept on Netaji's return of the "Joshi" file

NT

T-768 TOKYO 26.2.86 10:00

CRASH CRASH CRASH

FROM: INDEMBASSX TOKYO
TO: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

SECRETARY(EAST) FROM AMBASSADOR

REPT. TO J.S.(EA)

IT IS REPORTED THAT IWAICHI ~~FUGIWARA~~ ~~1887-1887-5-563-163-97~~ 77.
HE WAS FORMER GENERAL OF THE GROUND SELF-DEFENCE FORCE AND DURING WAR
WAS ASSOCIATED WITH NETAJI AND THE INA WHICH HE HELPED TO ORGANISE.
HE WAS GIVEN NETAJI AWARD BY A CALCUTTA GROUP CALLED NETAJI RESEARCH
BUREAU LAST YEAR.

2 I AM CONVEYING DEEP CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND SENDING WREATH.
PROPOSE TO DEPUTE AN OFFICER FOR FUNERAL CEREMONY WHENEVER IT TAKES
PLACE.

COLLS: T-768 TOKYO 26.2.86

115

38

Ministry of Ext. Affairs
Recd on 26-2-1230
R. Dy. No. 8694/T/86

1425/EAD/86

TELETYPE
(Ministry of Ext. Affairs)

Sent 6 AM
JS(EA) has seen
US(EA) ✓
26 FEB 1986
EAD Netaji file
Copy on
Munim Joshi file

357/1401-11

SD
242

(116)

39

IMMEDIATE

No. C/551/13/81-IP
Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

Coordination Division had received a notice along with the judgement of the Rajasthan High Court on writ petition concerning Netaji Subhash Chander Bose.

EA Division had requested Coordination Division to locate the previous papers and let us know. Hope by now connected papers would have been located.

Please indicate the position.

(A.L. Srivastava)
Deputy Secretary (EA)
12.3.85

Coordination Divn.

(80 - Cora)

in
78/5
13/3

87

597/147/86

17/3

40

117

IMMEDIATE

No. C/551/13/81-JR
Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

1899/147/86

14/3

1811/147/86

13/3

Coordination Division had received a notice along with the judgement of the Rajasthan High Court on writ petition concerning Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

EA Division had requested Coordination Division to locate the previous papers and let us know. Hope by now connected papers would have been located.

Please indicate the position.

A.L. Srivastava
(A.L. Srivastava)
Deputy Secretary (EA)
12.3.86

Coordination Divn.

(SO - Coord)

Coordination Section

These papers were sent to Dir (L&T) by JS (Coord) vide his Dy No. 1457-JS (Coord)/86 dated 26.2.86.

DS (EA) may please see.

Ranish
18/3/86
May please see if the relevant pp are with L&T Division.
R. Srivastava
DS (EA)
15/3
45 (L&T)

Director (L&T)

Previous papers were not checked in EA Sec. Shri C. Jain may please check his papers. 18/3
Intelligence of US... could look into his if necessary in communication with Sh. C. Jain 18/3
Shri H.C. Jain

~~Shri H.C. Jain~~
~~with an opinion dated 28.2.1986~~
~~12/3~~

They were directed to L&T Sec. as
440/L&T/86.
The papers were sent

to AS (CPP) with our opinion
dated 11.3.1986.

SO (L&T)

OS (L&T)

This has gone to J.S. - Sh. N.K. Murthy,
Department of Legal Affairs, M/Law & Justice
who may be contacted.

[Signature]
18/3

US (L&T)

RA's
20/3

D.S. (EA)
(Sh. A.L. Sivastava)

EA Div
We are interested in knowing
if any action is called for on
our (EA Div) part, on the
Rajasthan High Court's directions.
L&T Division may please
advise.

C.R. Swarna
DS(EA)
20.3.86

US (L&T)


3.5-DS(EA)/86
20/3

(42)
107
Most Immediate

No.C/551/13/81-JP
Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)
....

U.S. (L&T) may kindly refer to D.S. (EA)'s note dated the 20th March, 1986 sent under Dy. No.305-D9(EA)/86 regarding action on a judgement of the Rajasthan High Court on a writ petition concerning Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. L&T Division's Dy. No.597/L&T/86 refers.

2. It is requested that L&T Division's advice may be expedited.


(V.M. Mohanan)
Section Officer (EA)
1.9.86
d/c

U.S. (L&T)

*Issued
5/9/86*



Deputy Chief of Mission

No.TOK/551/1/81

January 9, 1987

My dear Ranjit,

Please refer to correspondence resting with our letter of even no. dated 27th December, 1985 regarding Renkoji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Subhash Bose are kept.

2. You would be aware that we have been making a small contribution each year to the Temple for keeping the ashes of Netaji Subhash Bose. I had gone to the Temple on Tuesday, January 6, to hand over the contribution as well as to make the acquaintance of the Chief Priest, Rev. Kyoji Mochizuki. During the course of our conversation, the Chief Priest mentioned to me his desire to pay a visit to India, including places associated with Netaji as well as places of Buddhist pilgrimage. Apparently, he had expressed a similar wish to my predecessor in October, 1985 just before the visit of our Prime Minister. The then DCM had promised assistance to arrange such a visit for him at an early date. However, it appears from our file that no follow-up action was taken.

3. We have been in a sense beholden to the Temple for taking care of the ashes of Netaji during the past few years. Even though there have been several moves to persuade the Government of India to accept the ashes, this has not come about for reasons well known to you. In the circumstances, it is felt that inviting the Chief Priest for a brief visit to India would be a befitting gesture on our part. The visit could be arranged under the aegis of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

4. I shall be grateful to hear your response to this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

(Shyam Saran)

Shri R.S. Kalha,
Joint Secretary(EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

SECRET

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03(262)2391

Re examine &
put up on file

13/1

on file 14/1

15/1

R.S. KALHA
Joint Secretary (EA)

SECRET

119
210-052R/87
3/1

Nd. C/551/13/81-JP

44

January 28, 1987

My dear

sm(43)

Please refer to your letter No. TOK/551/1/81 dated January 9, 1987, regarding the visit to India of Rev. Kyoji Mochizuki, the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple.

2. We have gone into all aspects of your proposal but considering the sensitivities, we feel that there is need for care in arranging such a visit to India. Even if we do our best to organise and "control" his programme there is no way for us to ensure that his visit would not raise a controversy on the question of Netaji's ashes. It would, therefore, be better to avoid such a visit.

3. However, we do not wish to look ungrateful for all that the Renkoji Temple has done and would wish to acknowledge Rev. Mochizuki's services. Perhaps you may wish to increase the size of our contribution as a special gesture or make a special one-time gift on a special occasion. We would leave it to you to decide.

4. Our line of thinking as indicated above has the approval of Secretary, Shri A.S. Gonsalves.

Yours sincerely,

(R.S. KALHA)

Shri Shyam Saran
Deputy Chief of Mission
Embassy of India
TOKYO

30/1

22

(120)

IMMEDIATE

112

No: C/551/13/81-JP.
Ministry of External Affairs
East Asia Division

.....

Sub: SB writ Petition No: 302/84 in Rajasthan High Court - Nand Lal Sharma vs Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan and Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, regarding starting an open judicial enquiry on international level to know about the whereabouts of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

In February 1986 we had received a communication from the Deputy Registrar, Rajasthan High Court, Jaipur conveying Hon'ble Court's direction on the writ petition referred to above. The papers were dealt with in our L&T Division (Dy. Nos 440 ~ 597/L&T/86) and EA Division was informed by the then US(L&T) that the relevant papers were sent to Shri H.K. Murthy, Joint Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice.

2. One Professor V.L. Talekar, Convenor, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation, Jaipur had sent a registered letter dated 15th August, 1986 (enclosed in original) seeking information on compliance of the Court's direction, to MEA. The Hon'ble Court's direction is partly quoted below for ready reference. "In the facts and circumstances, I think it proper to issue a direction to the non-petitioner No.2 to look into the matter dispassionately and hear the petitioner in person patiently and examine the documents and the evidence that he wants to produce in support of his contention, and then come to a definite conclusion. In my opinion six months time will be sufficient for the Union of India to examine the whole matter afresh with open mind and if necessary invite public in general to produce material whatever it wants in this connection before coming to a prima facie decision as to whether a fresh commission is necessary or not. Petitioner should submit all his papers, evidence and other material before Government of India and time of six months will start from the date the material is filed by the petitioner."

3. EA Division had sent a note bearing even number dated 1.9.1986 on the subject, enquiring action taken on the previous reference. There has been no response from L&T Division since then. Director(L&T) may please see for appropriate action. We would appreciate being informed of the position urgently.

Legal & Treaties Division
(Dr. (Sgt.) K. Thakre, Director)

(A.L. Srivastava)

19/1/87 OK
Issued
Ymt
19/1/87

No C/551/13/81-JP

Immediate

Sir

S.B. Civil Petition No 902/84 in
Rajasthan High Court - Nand Lal Sharma
vs Chief Secretary Govt of Rajasthan
and Secretary Ministry of External Affairs

Chandra Bose

New Delhi, Concerning Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
regarding starting an open judicial enquiry on international
level to know about the whereabouts of Netaji Subhash

In February 1986 we had received a
communication from the Deputy Registrar, Rajasthan
High Court Jaipur conveying Hon'ble Court's
direction on the int. petition referred to above.
The paper was dealt with in our
L & T Division (by No. 440/²⁹⁷L&T/86) and to A.D. who
was informed by ~~Shri~~^{the then} D.S. (L&T) that the
relevant papers were sent to Shri N.K. Murthy,
Joint Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs,
Ministry of Law & Justice.

2. One Professor V.L. Talekar, Convenor
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research
Foundation Jaipur has sent a registered
letter dated August 19 86 ^(enclosed in original) seeking information
on compliance of the Court's direction.

The Hon'ble Court's
direction is partly
quoted below for
ready reference:

"In the facts and
circumstances, I think
it proper to issue a
direction to the
non-petitioner No. 2
to look into the

to P.E.A. to look into the matter dispassionately
and hear the petitioner in person patiently, &
examine the documents and the evidence that
he wants to produce in support of his contention,
and then come to a definite conclusion. In my
opinion six months time will be sufficient for
the Union of India to examine the whole
matter afresh with open mind and if necessary
invite public in general to produce material
whatever it wants in this connection before
coming to a prima facie decision as to whether
a fresh Commission is necessary or not. The
Petitioner should submit all his papers,
evidence and other material before Government
of India and time of six months will start

from the date the material is filed by the petitioner.

3. EA Division had ~~received~~ ^{sent a note} L&T Division sent a note bearing even number dated 1.9.1986 on the only set enquiry action taken on the forenoon reference. There has been no response from L&T Division since then. Dir (L&T) may please see ~~and~~ for appropriate action. We would appreciate being informed of the position ^{urgently} ~~regarding~~ ^{any}.

(A. L. Srinivasan)
Deputy Secy (EA)

Legal & Treaties Division
(Dr. (Smt) K. Thakore, Director)



नेताजी सुभाष चंद्र बोस शोध प्रतिष्ठान
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation

(NSCBRF)

REGISTERED

JAIPUR

Ref. No.

Dated Aug. 15, 1986

The Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Union of India,
South Block, Central Secretariat,
NEW DELHI - 110 001

Dear Sir,

Subject: S.B.Civil Writ Petition No.902/84,
Nand Lal Sharma, Vs. Chief Secretary,
Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur and Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs, Union of
India, New Delhi; under Articles 226 and
51 of the Constitution of India.

The order on the above writ petition passed by
Rajasthan High Court, Jaipur on 18th Jan. 1986, in
presence of Shri B.P.Gupta, Standing Counsel for
Union of India, was duly communicated to you by the
Deputy Registrar of the Rajasthan High Court, Jaipur,
vide his letter No.1231 dated 12.2.1986 for information
and necessary compliance (cf. Enclosure).

The undersigned in his capacity as Convenor, is
duly authorised to pursue the matter of the said order
and would like to be informed as to what steps your
Ministry has taken or proposes to take in respect of
compliance of the said order.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

Encl: One

(Prof. V. L. Talekar)

President

RANDIT NANDLAL SHARMA

Founder President NSCBRF (For life),
Bassi (Jaipur) 303301

Dr. R. M. KASLIWAL

Member NSCBRF,
Ataljan Marg, Jaipur 302001

Shri RAMESH CHANDRA SHARMA

Founder Member NSCBRF,
117, Saket, Meerut 250001

Convenor

Professor V. L. TALEKAR

✓ Founder Member NSCBRF,
C-169, Bajaj Nagar, Jaipur 302017

Shri JAGADISH KODESIA

Founder Member NSCBRF,
3-5, Sarva Priya Vihar, New Delhi 110016

rajasthan

PATRIKA

March 16, 1986 2

SUNDAY MAGAZINE

Netaji Case

By Prof. V.L. Talekar, Founder Director, Dr. Subhash Memorial Foundation, Jaipur.



Netaji Subhashchandra Bose did not die in the so called plane crash in Taiwan, as many would have us believe. He survived and, in face of defeat, raised the third Indian National Army to fight the British. He was captured but escaped.



1231
12/2/86

विश्वविद्यालय - नई दिल्ली

To The Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Union of India, South Block,
Central Secretariat, New Delhi
NEW DELHI

S.O. and Writ Petition no. 902/84.
Nandlal Sharma Vs. Ch. of Secretary, South B.R.
Jaipur and Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

Sir,

I am directed to send herewith a copy of the Order dated 18-1-86 passed by this Honble Court while disposing of the above noted writ petition, for information and necessary compliance. Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
Dy. Registrar.

NETAJI CASE RESURRECTED: The Rajasthan High Court of Judicature, Jaipur, Recently passed an order in case of Nandlal Sharma, a veteran freedom fighter, pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. It was a S.B. Civil writ petition under article 226 read with article 51 of the Indian Constitution directed against the Government of In-

dia, asking for reopening of the issue of Netaji's supposed death, as decided by Shah Nawaz Commission of 1956 and again by Khosla Commission of 1971. The writ claimed that Netaji did not die on 18th August 1945 in the so called plane crash in Taiwan, as generally believed. Justice S.N. Bhargava, dated 18th Jan. 1986, has rightly

directed the Government of India to look into the matter dispassionately, hear the petitioner patiently and examine the documents already submitted and to be submitted in future by him. The order of the High Court to reopen the case twice closed by commissions, has resurrected Netaji!

Recorded on file No C/551/13/81-58

~~SECRET~~

(125)

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

Suggestion from the Embassy of India, Tokyo to invite the Chief Priest, Renkoji Temple where the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose are kept.

The Mission's suggestion is based on two considerations:

(i) That the chief priest himself has expressed the desire to pay a visit to India including the places associated with Netaji as well as places of Buddhist interest;

(ii) That we are beholden to Renkoji Temple for taking care of ashes of Netaji during the past few years and that gesture of extending an invitation to the chief priest would be helpful in ensuring the continued care of ashes in temple at Tokyo.

Shri Shyam Saran has referred to some discussion in October 1985 but we have no record about it in EA Division. I had mentioned that fact to him when I happened to have a brief conversation on telephone. I had enquired from Shri Shyam Saran if the visit of Rev. Kyoji Mochizuki could be arranged with the help of the Government of India Tourist Office. It was explained that in that case we may not be able to have a full control over his programme and that such a control is necessary keeping in view the sensitivities and the controversy relating to Netaji's ashes. I wonder, however, if his visit programme arranged under the aegis of the ICCR can be controlled in a way that he does not get an opportunity to raise any controversy about Netaji's ashes.

If JS (EA), however, approves, we could request ICCR to consider if they would agree to host the visit of Rev. Kyoji Mochizuki.

(A.L. Srivastava)
Deputy Secretary (EA)
22.1.87

JS (EA)

This be kept for the file which could be opened on the proposal for Rev. Mochizuki's visit

22/1

गुप्त
SECRET

D-922/JSCEM7/87
10/2

117 (126)



303-235A/87
10/2

45

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03(262) 2391

Deputy Chief of Mission

No.TOK/753/1/85

February 6, 1987

My Dear Ranjan

Thank you very much for your letter no. C?551/13/81-JP dated 28th January, 1987 regarding the visit to India of Rev. Kyoji Mochizuki, the Chief Priest of Renkoji Temple.

2. We are aware of the sensitivities involved in arranging a visit to India by the Chief Priest. Certainly, it would be advisable for us not to be officially associated with such a visit. However, since he has expressed a keen desire to visit India and since his cooperation is important for us, we would suggest an alternative which you could consider. We could make available to him a one time gift of say ¥ 1,000,000 which would be adequate for him to finance a one-week or ten-day Buddhist pilgrimage tour of India of the kind organised by several Japanese travel agencies.

3. I have also discussed with Ambassador the size of our contribution to the Temple. As you are aware, the Temple is being paid an annual contribution of ¥ 600,000. The sum is quite adequate and need not be increased at this stage. However, we may reconsider if and when there are pressures from the Chief Priest.

4. We have seen from the Indian newspapers that Netaji's daughter has recently been in India. We wonder if she has any views with regard to her father's ashes which are being kept in Renkoji Temple.

Yours sincerely,

With regards

(Shyam Saran)

Shyam

Shri R.S. Kalha,
Joint Secretary(EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

On file pl.

7/2

10/2

*JS (PA)
Submittal
10/2*

No. C/551/13/81-JP

February 18, 1987

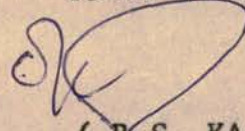
My dear

Please refer to your letter No. TOK/753/1/85 dated February 6, 1987, regarding the visit of the Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple to India.

2. The Mission, it seems, has appreciated the sensitivities involved in arranging a visit to India by the Chief Priest, but at the same time has suggested that we should help the priest to make a visit to India privately. It is our view that the Chief Priest's visit, in any capacity, may raise a controversy on the question of Netaji's ashes. We would like to avoid this by all means. We, therefore, do not want that it should be encouraged. While we cannot put a ban on the visit to India by Rev. Kyoji Mochizuki, we should make every effort to avoid such a visit. The Mission need not take any initiative in this regard, and should let the matter rest.

3. The above issues on the instructions of Secretary, Shri A.S. Gonsalves.

Yours sincerely,



(R.S. KALHA)

23/2
US(EA)
24/2

Shri Shyam Saran
Deputy Chief of Mission
Embassy of India
TOKYO

Geetha
25/2

27/2

128

SECRET

Draft

No. C/551/13/81/JP

My dear

Please refer to your letter No. TOK/753/1/85 dated 6 February, 1987 regarding the visit of the Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple *to India*.

2. The Mission, it seems, has appreciated the sensitivities involved in arranging a visit to India by the Chief Priest, but at the same time has suggested that we should help the priest to make a visit to India privately. *It is our view* What we really wish you to appreciate *in capacity* is that the chief priest's visit, any way, may raise a controversy on the question of Netaji's ashes. We would like to avoid that by all means. We, therefore, do not want that it should be encouraged. While we can-not put a ban on the visit to India by Rev. Kyoji Mochizuki, *should make every effort to avoid* but we can avoid associating ourselves with such a visit. The Mission need not take any initiative in this regard. *We feel that* we should let the matter rest *for the moment*.

3. *The above issues on the instructions of Secretary, Shri A. S. Dsouza.*

Yours sincerely,

(R.S.Kalha)

Shri Shyam Saran,
Deputy Chief of Mission,
Embassy of India,
TOKYO.

(47)

(29)

2321/EAD/87

25/2

INDIAN EXPRESS 23.2.87

(120)

Disappearance of Netaji to be re-examined

JAIPUR, Feb 22 (PTI)

The Centre will re-examine the case of disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, according to an official communication received by Prof. V. L. Talekar, convener of the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Research Foundation here.

The Rajasthan High Court on January 18 last year had directed the Union Government to "examine afresh with open mind" the disappearance of the freedom movement leader, on a writ petition filed by the president of the foundation, Mr Nand Lal Sharma, a close associate of Netaji.

An additional secretary in the External Affairs Ministry has now telegraphically informed the foundation that the government was taking "urgent steps to initiate hearing".

Prof. Talekar, the septugenarian freedom fighter, told PTI here on Sunday that the foundation would submit proofs to the government that Netaji did not die in the air crash in Taiwan on August 18, 1945, as believed.

G-5
23/2

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4/13/11B/81-JP

2ND INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL OF MARINE SCIENCES

Goodwill delegation for Japan India friendship and cultural exchange.

Goodwill mission visit to Indian High School and Tibbetan Refugees camp.

SCHEDULE: From 13th to 21st Dec. '86

MEMBERS: 85 High school 1st year students
10 University students(Group leaders)
05 Teachers

DESTINATION: India

PURPOSE OF VISIT:

- 1) To create understandings/Mutual trust in depth.
- 2) Cultural exchange/cultural programmes.
- 3) Person to person meetings and exchanges for goodwill with Indian High School students.
- 4) Games/Sports, jointly with Indian students.
- 5) Goodwill visit to social welfare programmes, i.e., Tibbetan refugees camps...(Volunteer activity)
- 6) To create friendship.
- 7) Pay courtesy call to visit honourable President of India.

ACTIVITY: 1) Group meetings/discussions.
2) Individual performance.
3) Musical performance.
4) Direct conversation and exchange of views.

TOUR FEE: 150,000 - 160,000 YEN

AIRLINE: AIR-INDIA

LEADERS: Miss Nobuko Iwaki, Principal of I.H.M.S.
Assisted by 5 teachers of I.H.M.S.
10 University students.

*International High School of Marine Sciences
5442-5, Kato, Ogasa-machi, Ogasa-gun, Shizuoka JAPAN
TEL: 05377-3-5141

I have no personal knowledge of what happened to Netaji's belongings or to the treasure that he was carrying. I read certain reports in newspapers that when the plane crashed at Taihoku, the contents of those boxes containing treasure, were scattered all over the place. They were collected and placed in a box and later sent to Tokyo. I have personal knowledge about this treasure but I learnt from newspapers that Lt. Col. Tanaka brought ^{received} ~~this~~ this from Formosa and handed over to an officer of the I.I.L., Japan.

I consider Netaji to be a very great patriot whose only thought was the welfare and independence of India. He did not care for money and took the minimum amount on his personal comfort.

I am convinced that Netaji was in the plane crash that took place at Taihoku.

L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

(131)

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Phone No.

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PRAJATANTRA IMPH
MANIPUR, INDIA.

Imphal. 9, March '88.

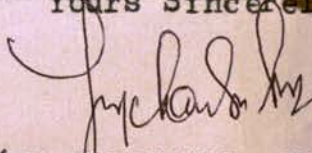
Dear Shri A.B.Gokhale,

Thank you very much for your Letter dated the 1st March 1988.

I am sending you soon the text of the Resolution adopted by the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation at its convention in Madras in September, 1983 in connection with the remains of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely,


(L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH)

Mr. A.B.Gokhale
Secretary, (E & ER)
Ministry of External Affairs,
Govt. of India.
New Delhi.

15/3

JS (CA)

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nls

Netaji file

15/3

15/3/88

SECRET



Deputy Chief of Mission

537-2528/87

3/3

(S) 948/EAD/87

4/3

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03(262) 2391

No.TOK/753/1/85

February 25, 1987

My dear Ranjiv,

Thank you for your letter no.C/551/13/81-JP dated February 18, 1987 regarding the visit of the Chief Priest of the Renkoji Temple to India.

2. In deference to the instructions of Secretary, we shall no longer pursue the matter of the Chief Priest's visit to India. However, if he wishes to travel to India on his own initiative, there is not much that we can do to prevent it. Nor will it be possible for us to ignore it.

3. In my letter of even no. dated February 6, 1987, I had enquired from you whether the question of Netaji's ashes was brought up during the recent visit to India by Netaji's daughter. I wonder, if you have been able to get any information in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

(Shyam Saran)

Shri R.S. Kalha,
Joint Secretary(EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

6/17

(133)

CONFIDENTIAL

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(East Asia Division)

* * *

Mr. L. Joychandra Singh, who has been actively engaged in trying to get the ashes of Netaji back to India called on Secretary(East) on 3.2.1988. He said he was calling on Secretary after receiving Secretary's letter recently. He recalled the earlier letter written by Shri P.V.Narsimha Rao to him after he wrote to Mrs. Gandhi. He said he was a social worker who had assisted Mrs. Gandhi in her emergency cases and was undertaking this task as Mrs. Gandhi herself was keen to bring Netaji's remains to India. He asserted that Mr. Sisir Bose, the nephew of Netaji has also agreed to his suggestion. He took exception to a letter received by Shri Sisir Bose from a Petition Officer in PMO as he asserted that the letter used any appropriate language.

2. He mentioned that in August 1987 he had visited Japan and ~~met~~ met the group of people who are undertaking the maintenance of Netaji's ashes and their leader, General Katakura, is very old and wishes to send the remains to India. He said that he had taken some of the representatives to meet DCM, Embassy of India, Tokyo, who had asked him to contact Secretary. The Japanese Group felt that ~~there~~ there was evidence of Netaji's death and why should the Government of India hesitate to honour his memory? Mr. Joychandra ~~Singh~~ Singh said that he was as a child witness to INA in Manipur and when Gen. Fujiwara used to come for the collection of the remains of the Japanese war dead Mr. Singh used to assist them.

3. Secretary had stated that as indicated in his letter and the letter by Shri P.V.Narsimha Rao no consensus had yet emerged on the issue and there are people who do not accept the ashes as genuine and others who do not accept Netaji's demise. The ashes are well looked after at the Renkoji Temple and are suitably venerated. Mr. Joychandra Singh agreed ~~with~~ this and understood that a complete consensus would be required before the return of the ashes. In his view it was only the Forward Bloc and Mr. Samar Guha who opposed the return of the ashes. He indicated that he would now try and organise the consensus among all parties but this task is difficult because of the mushroom growth of the political parties and he may, perhaps, approach this task by writing to the newspaper.

4. He promised to send copies of letters from Dr. Sisir Bose to the PMO which were received on 15.2.1988.

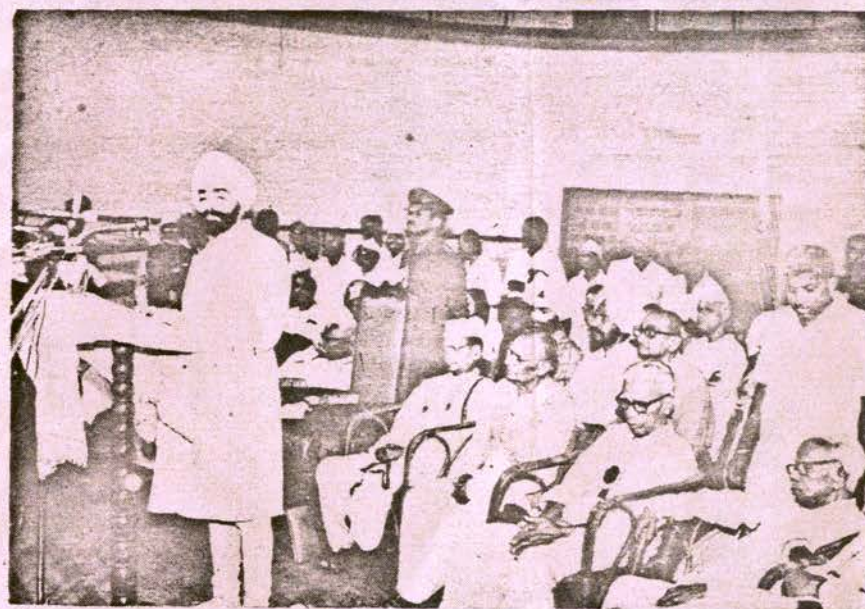
(Gurjit Singh)
Under Secretary(EA)
16.2.1988

Netaji file

2/9/88

**HISTORIC RESOLUTION OF THE
ALL INDIA FREEDOM FIGHTERS' ORGANISATION
FOR
DECLARING INDIA A SOCIALIST REPUBLIC**

Jai Hind



Rashtrapati Giani Zail Singh, inaugurating the joint convention of A.I.F.F.O. and South Zonal Freedom Fighters' organisation held at Madras on 18th September, 1983.

Published & Printed By **Shashi Bhushan**, Former M.P. on behalf of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation, 7-Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi-110001;
Phone : 343967

PRINT INDIA New Delhi-64

Resolutions of the Joint Convention of All India
Freedom Fighters' Organisation and South Zonal
Freedom Fighters' Organisation held at Madras on
18-19 September, 1983

Price : Rs. 1/-

183

Shri Jharkhande Rai, M.P., U.P., Shri Brij Mohan Sahai (Ind.),
Shri Kapil Dev Thakur, Ex-M.L.A., (Janata Party), Shri Bishan
Dev Prasad Yadav (Congress-I), Shri Ram Chandra Sharma
(Congress-I), Shri Vishwa Nath Mohur (C.P.I.), Shri Shrivnath Singh
(Congress-I), Shri Kamla Kant Azad (Indpt.), Dr. Baij Nath Jha
(Congress-I), Shri Habibur Rehman (Congress-I) Shri Bhogendra
Jha, M.P., (C.P.I.), Bihar, Shri Ram Lubhya Chanana (Congress-I),
Com. Ram Chandra Sharma (C.P.I.), Choudhry Brahm Parkah,
Ex. M.P., Mir Mushtaq Ahmed (Independent), Prof. Vijai
Chauhan (Congress-I), Shri Jagat Ram Joshi (Congress-I)
Shri S.N. Bhasin (Congress-I), Mt. Kalpana Joshi (C.P.I.), Shri
K.P. Shankra, Advocate (Congress-I), Shri Manu Dev Shastri
(Independent), Com. M. Faruqi (C.P.I.), Shri N.N. Kaul (Con-
gress-I), Delhi, Pandit Amar Nath Vidyalankar, Ex-M.P.
Chandigarh; Shri Charan Jit Singh Bedi, Col. G.S. Dhillon, I.N.A.,
Sardar Ram Singh Majithia (Congress-I), Shri Sunder Lal Advocate,
Sardar Jogendra Singh Saqi (Congress-I), Captain Gulzara Singh
I.N.A. and Sardar Gulab Singh (Congress-I), Punjab; Shri Mehar
Chand Ahuja, Com. Rachhpal Singh (C.P.I.), Haryana; Shri J.P.
Baghi (Independent) and Shri Aman Singh, I.N.A., Himachal Pradesh;
Shri B.D. Gujral (Congress-I) and Shri Gulshan Rasul (National
Conference), Ch. Mohammad Shafi, Ex-M.P. Jammu & Kashmir,
Shri Baishnav Charan Patnaik, Ex-M.P. (Congress-I), Shri Bhabani
Charan Patnaik, M.P. (Congress-I), Shri Chintamani Panigrahi,
M.P. (Congress-I) and Shri Narayan Prasad Nanda, Ex-M.P. (Con-
gress-S), Orissa; Shri Pullin Behari Roy (Independent), Shri
Nripen Chowdhary (Independent), Shri Purna Nand Das Gupta
(Independent), Shri S.C. Saha (Congress-I), Shri Nirmal Adhikari
(Congress-I), Shri Naren Sarkar, Ex-M.L.A. (Congress-I), Shri
Sukhmoy Chakraborty (R.S.P.) and Shri Biren Dey Sarkar (Con-
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Singh Ex-M.P. (Janta Party) Tripura; Shri P. Tomal Singh, I.N.A.
(Congress-I), Manipur, Shri Shantilal Kothari, Ex-M.P., Shri
Bhawani Sahai Sharma, Shri Nathu Ram Yogi and Shri Onkarlal
Bohra, Ex-M.P., Rajasthan; Shri Thomas Dias, Goa.

Rao, (Independent) Maharashtra, Capt. Abbas Ali, I.N.A. (Janata Party) U.P., Shri Devi Lal Chaudhry, M.P. (Lok Dal) Haryana, Shri Y.B. Chavan, M.P. Maharashtra, Shri T. Haigrivachari, (Congress-I) Andhra Pradesh, Shri R.V. Swaminathan (Congress-I) Tamilnadu, Major Abid Hasan Sarfarani, I.N.A., Andhra Pradesh, Col. P.S. Raturi, I.N.A. U.P., Capt. Ranjit Singh, I.N.A., (Congress-I) Punjab, Col. Mahboob Ahmed, I.N.A., Bihar, Col. Laxmi Sehgal, I.N.A. U.P., Shri S.K. Khastgri, I.N.A. West Bengal, Dr. M.R. Vyas, Ex-M.P., I.N.A., Gujarat, Shrimati Dr. Shakuntala (Congress-I) Tamilnadu, Shri M.L. Dwivedi, Ex-M.P. (U.P.), Shri Probodh Roy (Andamans) West Bengal, Shri Bangeshwar Roy (Andamans, C.P.I.) West Bengal, Shri Laxmi Kant Shukla (Andamans) Bombay, Shri Rasik Bhai Jassani, Bombay, Shri Ramji Krishna Patil, Shri A. Dhanarkar, Shri Nathaji B. Lad, Shri Channu Singh, Ex-M.L.A., Shri B.M. Gaikwad, Maharashtra, Dr. Mahipat Rai Mehta, M.P., Shri Manu Bhai Patel, M.P. (Janata Party), Shri Mukund Bhai Patel (Congress-S) Gujarat, Shri N. Rajagopalan (Congress-I), Pondicherry, Shri R. Chidambra Bharati, Ex-M.L.A. (Congress-I) Shri G. Thirvengadam (Congress-I), Dr. K.B. Swami (Congress-I), Shri Dhanush Kodi Raja (Congress-I), Shri Selva Maithu, I.N.A., Shri M. Kalyansundaram, M.P. (C.P.I.), Tamilnadu, Shri V.C. Ahmed Unni, Ex-M.P. (Congress-I), Shri K.J. Chako, Shri Gopinath Nair (Kerala) Shri Enayathulla Mehkri, (Congress-I), Shri K.K. Naikar (Congress-I) and Shri K.K. Setty, Ex-M.P. (Congress-I) Karnataka, Shri K. Madhusudan Rao (Indpt.), Shri P. Thimma Reddy (Independent) Shri V. H. Desai (Independent) Shri M. Nageshwar Rao, M.P. (Congress-I), Shri Rabi Naryan Reddy, Ex. M.P. (C.P.I.) and Shri Mahabir Singh (Congress-I), Andhra Pradesh, Shri Rattan Lal Jain (Independent), Shri Gopikrishna Vijayavargiya, Ex-M.P. (Congress-I), Shri N.K. Bhatt, M.P. (Congress-I), Shri Mahendra Kumar Manav (Janata Party), Shri S.P. Misra (Ind.) and Shrimati Vidyawati Chauthurvedi, M.P. (Congress-I) Madhya Pradesh, Shri Z.A. Ahmed, Ex-M.P. (C.P.I.), Shri Chunni Lal Sharma (Congress-I) Shri Ambika Prasad Bajpai (Ind.) Shri Radhey Lal Chopra (C.P.I.), Shri Harsh Dev Malviya, Ex-M.P., Shri Ansar Harvani, Ex-M.P., Shri R.K. Sinha, Ex-M.P. (Congress-I), Comrade Jai Dev Kapoor (C.P.I.), Prof. Radhey Shyam (Congress-I), Gen. Shahnawaz Khan, I.N.A. (Congress-I),

Madras Convention of All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation

The two day joint convention of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation and the South Zonal Freedom Fighters, hailing from Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Pondicherry, Marathwada areas of former Telangana, Andhra and Tamil Nadu was held at Madras in the famous Kamaraj Bhavan, Congress Grounds, Teaynampet on 18th and 19th September, 1983. It was inaugurated by veteran Freedom Fighter, Giani Zail Singh, President of the Indian Republic, Prof. N.G. Ranga, M.P., Presidium Member of AIFFO and Deputy Leader of the Congress Party in Parliament presided over the Convention which was attended by 3,500 delegates from all parts of India. The National Flag was hoisted by famous I.N.A. hero, Col. G.S. Dhillon.

Earlier President Giani Zail Singh unveiled the lifesize statue of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, the Father of Indian Revolution, at a massive function held at the Red Hills, Madras, Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Ex. M.P., Working President of the AIFFO presided over the function. Two thousand I.N.A. soldiers presented a Guard of Honour to Rashtrapati and paid their respectful homage to Netaji. The National Flag was hoisted by Capt. S.S. Yadav of the I.N.A. who is also the Secretary of the A.I. Freedom Fighters' Organisation.

Dr. T. Kannan, Chairman of the Reception Committee, Shri M. Bhaktta Vatsalam, Ex-Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Working President of A.I.F.F. Organisation, Com. Ram Kishan, Ex-Chief Minister of Punjab, Dr. H.V. Hande, Health Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri M. Palaniyandi President NCE, (1), Choundhry Ranbir Singh, Ex. M.P. President of the Haryana State F.F.O., Prof. M.D. Mishra, Ex. M.P. and Shri V.L. Sunder Rao, Com. Dev Dutt Atal, General Secretaries, A.I.F.F.O.

Shri Shashi Bhushan, Former M.P., Treasurer, AIFFO., Sh.N. Alexander, Ex. M.P. Working President of the Kerala State Freedom Fighters' Organisation, Shri Purshottam Kakodkar, Ex. M.P. President of the Goa. F.F.O. Shri Ram Bhau Nisal, Working President of the Maharashtra State Freedom Fighters' Organisation, Shri Ram Singh, General Secretary of U.P. Freedom Fighters' Organisation. Shri Magan Lal Bagdi, Ex. M.P. President of MPFFO. Shri Kunj Bihari Pathak, General Secretary of the MPFFO, Shri Dhiren Bhawmick, General Secretary of the West Bengal F.F.O. Shri Pabitra Mohan Pradhan, Ex. Deputy C.M. of Orissa, Shri Bijay Kumar Pani, Ex. M.P. Vice-President of Orissa F.F.O., Sh. K.K. Naikar and Shri M. Sriksanthayya, General Secretaries of Karnataka State FFO. Shri K. Shri Ramlu, Former Labour Minister of Karnataka, Shri Ram Lubhaya Chanana, Working President of the Delhi Pradesh FFO, Shri M.S. Rajalingam, General Secretary of the AIFFO, Shri Madaswamy, Secretary, Netaji Statue Committee, Madras, Shri S.M.L. Velayudan, I.N.A. Tamilnadu, Shri P.S.R. Lakshmipati Raju, Ex. M.L.A., President, Tamilnadu F.F.O., Shri N. Rajagopal, President, Pondacherry FFO., Capt. S.V.V. Murgesan, I.N.A. Tamilnadu I.N.A. League, V. Vydhylingam; I.N.A., A.P. Sundar Raj, I.N.A., Shiva Naandan, I.N.A., K. Doraiswamy, I.N.A., Shri D. Ramakrishnam, General Secretary, Tamilnadu FFO., Shri Ch. Suryaprakash Rao, Secretary, Shri Bomura Seshi Reddy, Vice-President., Sh. M.S. Rajalingam, General Secretary, Shri Jami Sanyasi Rao, Working Committee Member, Shri Gopal Rao, Sh. K.K. Rangareddy, Working Committee Member, Shri Rama Chandra Rao, Shri Rama Rao, Sh. M.V. Krishna Rao, Shri Durbha Krishna Murty (Andhra Pradesh) Shri Jagat Ram Joshi, Treasurer Delhi Pradesh FFO, Sh. Gopinath Nair, Secretary, Kerala FFO. Shri Rasik Bhai Jasarri, General Secretary Bombay Pradesh FFO, Shri Karam Singh Uppal, General Secretary, Punjab State FFO, Shri Bishnu Dev Prasad Yadav, and Shri Kapil Dev Thakur, General Secretaries Bihar State FFO. Shri Shiv Nadh Singh, Secretary Bihar State FFO., Sh. Wazeer Chand Kapur, Sh. Mahammad Satar Jung, Working President, J & K FFO. MND, among others, participated and addressed the convention.

Messeages from Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, External Affairs Minister, Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao, Defence Minister,

Treasurer :

Shri Shashi Bhushan, Former M.P., New Delhi.

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Jagat Ram Joshi, Delhi.
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Shri K.N. Sandilya (Congress-I), Bihar.
Shri Purushottam Kakodkar, Ex. M.P., Goa.
Shri B.K. Chowdhari (Congress-I), Assam.

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Comrade S.A. Dange, Ex-M.P. (A.I.C.P.) Maharashtra, Gyani Zail Singh (Congress-I), Punjab, Shri R. Venkat Raman, (Congress-I) Tamilnadu, Shri P.V. Narashimha Rao (Congress-I) Andhra Pradesh, Shri Vasant Dada Patil, M.P. (Congress-I) Maharashtra, Shri Naryan Dutt Tiwari, (Congress-I) U.P., Shri Vasant Sathe, (Congress-I) Maharashtra, Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, (Congress-I) Bihar, Shri P. Venkatsubbiah (Congress-I) Andhra Pradesh, Comrade P. Rammurti, M.P. (C.P.I.M) Tamil Nadu, Shri Tridib Chowdhary, M.P. (R.S.P.) West Bengal, Shri A. Kameshwar

**Office-bearers and Members of the Executive Committee
of the ALL INDIA FREEDOM FIGHTERS'
ORGANISATION for three years from 28-2-81
to 27-2-84**

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Baba Pritvi Singh Azad (C.P.I.) Gujarat.
Prof. N.G. Ranga. M.P. (Congress-I) Andhra Pradesh.
Shri Ram Krishna Khatri (Independent) U.P.
Shri Ashwini Kumar Ganguli (Independent) W. Bengal.
General Mohan Singh. Ex-M.P., I.N.A., (Congress-I) Punjab.
Shri Jagdish Chatterji (Congress-I) West Bengal.
Shri Fazlur Rahman, Ex-Minister (Janta Party) W. Bengal.
Comrade Shiv Verma (C.P.M.) U.P.
Comrade Ram Kishan, Ex-M.P. (Congress-I) Delhi.
Shri Manmath Nath Gupta (Independent), Delhi.
Shri Radha Nath Rath (Orissa).

Working President :

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Ex-M.P. (Congress-I) Bihar.

Vice-Presidents :

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Shri Choudhary Ranbir Singh, Ex-M.P. Haryana.
Shri Shyam Naryan Kashmiri (Janta Party), Madhya Pradesh.
Shri Sadruddin Mujahid (J & K National Conference) Jammu & Kashmir.
Shri Kishori Prasanna Singh (C.P.I.), Bihar.
Dr. T. Kannan (Congress-I), Tamil Nadu.
Comrade Chanan Singh (Congress-I) Punjab.
Shri Maganlal Bagri, Ex-M.P. (Congress-I), Madhya Pradesh.
Shri P.K. Khanna, Ex-M.P. (Independent), U.P.
Shri Amar Prasad Chakravarty, M.P. (Forward Bloc), W. Bengal.
Shri M. Koireng Singh, I.N.A (Janta Party), Manipur.

Sh. R. Venkatraman, State Home Minister, Shri P. Venkata Subbayya, and from several other senior Freedom Fighters were received wishing the conference success.

For the first time in the annals of the freedom fighters' history of South India, joint convention of the National Council and South Zonal Freedom Fighters was held in Madras to pay homage to all the martyrs of freedom struggles who laid their lives, right from the battle of Plassy in 1757 to the liberation of Goa and Pandicherry.

The freedom fighters renewed their solemn pledge to complete the unfulfilled task of the martyrs for the establishment of a socialist Republic of India where poverty, unemployment and all the evils in the society will become a dream of the past.

President Giani Zail Singh's appeal to Freedom Fighters

Inaugurating the joint Convention of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation and South Zonal Freedom Fighters, President Giani Zail Singh, a veteran freedom fighter, urged the participants to save democracy by raising their voice against regionalism, communalism, casteism and other fissiparous tendencies. He wanted all the freedom fighters to come together under one banner and set an example to others. He said that some freedom fighters, who did not get pension, should be enabled to enjoy that benefit. The freedom fighters should be given a place of pride at the Republic Day and Independence Day celebrations.

He pleaded to the freedom fighters in the country to extend their cooperation to the Central and State governments in implementing various programmes chalked out for the welfare and progress of all the people. They should also work for strengthening the principles of socialism, secularism, and democracy.

He said that the ruling party, the Opposition and the Government should give due respect to the freedom fighters in deference to their sacrifices. In fact, the people should pray in temples, mosques and churches for the welfare of those who struggled hard for attaining independence. He asked the nation to remember that but for their sacrifices, the country could not have been free from the colonial rule. He further said that "if I am President today, it is because of my participation in the freedom struggle." He also said that all those who have become industrialists, senior officials, ministers, exporters and importers, it was due to the freedom fighters.

He praised the Central Government for honouring the freedom fighters with Tamra Patras. He said that he was happy that the Centre and the State were helping them. He asserted that there could be no danger to India's democracy from any power on earth as the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, was the chair-person of the Non-aligned Movement. He said that

RESOLUTION XV

On holding the All India Freedom Fighters' Conference at Nagpur/ Maharashtra on the 27th and 28th February, 1984.

This joint convention of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation and the South Zonal Freedom Fighters finally decides to hold the 8th All India Freedom Fighters' Conference at Nagpur/ Maharashtra on the 27th and 28th of February, 1984, the Martyrdom Day of Amar Shaheed Chandra Shakhazad, the Commander-in-Chief of the Socialist Republican Army.

RESOLUTION XIII

On the implementation of the liberalised Samman Pension Scheme

The joint convention of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation and the South Zonal Freedom Fighters' hailing from Goa, Karnataka, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh, Karala and Tamil Nadu States held at Madras on 18th & 19th September, 1983 congratulates and thanks Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi and her Indian Union Government for their acceptance of the liberalised Samman Freedom Fighters' Pension scheme as announced in the Parliament in 1980 by the then Home Minister Giani Zail Singh and urges upon them not to mutilate it but to improve it by allowing prominent freedom fighters who remained in jails for more than two years to give certificates to absconders, internee and externee freedom fighters whether they belong to any district and to any state of India as announced in the Parliament in 1980 and give freedom fighters' pension to all those freedom fighters who remained in jails for three months as recommended by the central Advisory Committee of the freedom fighters.

RESOLUTION XIV

On the enhancement of Samman Freedom Fighters pension

This joint convention of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation and the South Zonal Freedom Fighters, held at Madras on the 18th & 19th September, 1983, demands of the Indian Union Government to enhance the freedom fighters pension from Rs. 300/- to Rs. 500/- per month to all the living freedom fighters and also demands that after the death of the freedom fighters, their widows should be given the pension of the same amount.

when country was slave even the religious people from temples, mosque or churches were also slave. Today they are free, not to fight with each other but to work for national integration for which freedom fighters dedicated their lives.

Extracts from the speech of Prof. N.G. Ranga, M.P.

Prof. N.G. Ranga, the veteran freedom fighter, who presided, said that the history of the freedom movement in its true perspective should be included in the college and school text books. He praised the secular and democratic functioning of the Central Government and its help to the freedom fighters. He stressed the need to expand the public distribution system by opening more fair price shops for distribution of essential commodities to the poor. The Government should provide jobs to at least one person of a freedom fighter's family, he said.

REPORT

Secretariat of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation :

Since the decisions taken at the National Council meeting of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation held at Tenali in Andhra Pradesh in the month of May, 1982, some eventful achievements have been made. On the directions of the central Secretariat, Freedom Fighters of Punjab organised Jathas and a memorable Mela at Jallianwallah Bagh on the martyrdom day of Shaheed Bhagat Singh on 23rd March, 1983, and reiterated their pledge to work for unity and solidarity of India and fight against secessionist, regional, communal and anti-national forces, be in Punjab, Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura or anywhere else on the soil of our Motherland.

Our organisation hailed the 7th Non-Aligned Summit of 101 countries held at New Delhi which added a new feather to the cap of our esteemed Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi.

In pursuance of the efforts of our Organisation, the Govt. of India allotted a site and sanctioned a sum of rupees one crore to build a Shaheed Smarak, "Martyrs' Memorial" at New Delhi to preserve the history and establish a library of the freedom struggle and complete the same by the end of 1984. In this regard, Freedom Fighters are requested to send their suggestions for inclusions in complexes to Shri Buta Singh, Minister of Works and Housing, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi.

(b) The Govt. of India has been approached by our organisation for allotting 5,000 Square Yards of land at New Delhi for the Shaheed Smarak-cum-Swatantrata Sainani Bhavan which will host the office of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation and Delhi Pradesh and residential accommodation for those Freedom Fighters who have to come to Delhi for their work.

(c) The Bihar Freedom Fighters donated a sum of Rs. 1,20,000 to our Working President, Pt. Sheel Bhadra Yajee, on his 76th

40
The imperialists are planning to destabilise Indian sub-continent. The Sinhalese who are spearheading anti-Tamil campaign must realise that by doing so they are not serving the interest of their country but are playing in the hands of foreign power, the imperialists. We hope that better sense would prevail to normalise the situation and efforts made by Smt. Indira Gandhi and the Govt. of Sri Lanka to restore peace in that area will succeed in the interest of two ancient neighbouring countries.

RESOLUTION XII

On Railway Check Pass to the Freedom Fighters.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation held at Madras on 18-19 Sept. 83 expresses its gratitude to Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi who belongs to the family of freedom fighters since last three generations for the keen interest taken by her for the welfare of the freedom fighters. However, the bureaucracy is not fully implementing the decisions of the government of India as a result of which hundreds of cases of the freedom fighters still remain at the mercy of some lethargic officials.

We hope that the Government of India would appreciate the difficulties of ageing freedom fighters and solve their problems sympathetically and expeditiously.

We would like to draw the attention of the Govt. of India that most of the freedom fighters could not visit India's mighty projects whom Pt. Nehru had described as "Modern Temples of India". By visiting these plants, projects and dams, the freedom fighters will feel proud of country's achievement for which they struggled in the prime of their lives.

We urge upon the Govt. of India to issue 3 month's Railway Check Passes to the Freedom Fighters' and their family once in their life-time to enable them to have a comprehensive "Bharat Darshan".

views with grave concern the growing tension in Assam and the northeast border states of India as a result of violent and disruptive role being played by forces of destabilisation. It is unfortunate that innocent students and others are being exploited by the vested interests, acting as willing tools of foreign powers operating from the neighbouring country.

We call upon the people of Assam to be vigilant against the machinations of the imperialists, the CIA, the expansionists and the disruptionist forces who have been trying to disrupt peace, and development in the border state of Assam and other regions in that area.

We are sure that the Govt. of India will take appropriate steps to remove economic backwardness of Assam to bring it at par with other economically advanced Indian States.

RESOLUTION XI

On the violence perpetrated on the Tamilians in Sri Lanka.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation held at Madras on 18-19 September, 1983, strongly condemns the atrocities being perpetrated on the Tamil-speaking Indian population in Sri Lanka. It is indeed very shocking that in the recent large scale acts of violence, there has been enormous loss of life and property of the Tamil-speaking people, including their brutal murder in prisons.

Humanity can never tolerate such ghastly acts and we call upon the Government of Sri Lanka to take strong and effective measures to protect the life and property of the Tamil-speaking people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka and prevent re-occurrence of such incidents.

We would also like to remind the people of Sri Lanka that the Tamilians in Sri Lanka who have been living there since generations just like a family have made significant contributions towards the development of that country and that any discrimination against them would not only be unjust but also against the interest of Sri Lanka and affect the relations between two neighbouring countries.

birthday. Shri Yajee has in turn donated this amount to build Naji-cum-Swatantrata Sainani Bhavan at Patna. The Bihar Govt. has allotted a plot of land for construction of Bhawan and has assured a grant of Rs. 2,00,000 to complete the construction.

(d) It is the decision of our organisation to donate Rs. 90,000 on the 90th Birth Day of our revered president, Baba Prithivi Singh Azad, on 15th, Sept. 1982 to construct "Shaheed-cum-Swatantrata Senani Nivas" at New Delhi, to house the AIFFO office and Swatantrata Sainik Nivas for Freedom Fighters who come to Delhi from different parts of the country.

The money allotted to the States has yet to be realised. Sardar Darbara Singh, Chief Minister of Punjab, has announced a donation of Rs. 51,000 for the construction of this building on the 90th birth day of Baba Prithivi Singh Azad to be organised at Chandigarh under auspices of the Punjab Government. Baba ji has also announced a personal donation of Rs. 5,000 for the construction of this building.

The Secretariat urges upon respective state Committees to send allotted money to the Central Office by the 31st of December, 1983.

V.L. Sundar Rao
General Secretary
On behalf of the Secretariat
of AIFFO.

RESOLUTION I

On Paying homage to the martyrs.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation, held at Madras on 18-19 September, 1983 pays its respectful homage to the known and unknown martyrs of all freedom struggles waged in our country against British imperialism and its stooges princely and Native states from the time of the Battle of Plassey in 1757 to the period of the liberation of Goa and Pondichery.

We owe our freedom and national independence to the historic and revolutionary role played by them and we feel that our Nation should express its gratitude to them by raising a befitting memorial in their honour.

We urge upon the Government of India to complete the construction of the proposed Martyrs' Memorial in Delhi by the close of 1985, the centenary year of the foundation of the Indian National Congress which led the national liberation movement of our country.

RESOLUTION II

On Declaring India to be a Socialist Republic

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation, held at Madras on 18-19 Sept., 1983, recalls the commitments made by our National leaders during the struggle for India's independence. This oldest political party in the world, the Indian National Congress and its leaders Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and great martyrs like Bhagat Singh, Chandra Shekhar Azad, had declared Socialism as the goal of our country. Socialism is a great historic force which can wipe out parochialism, casteism, communalism and regionalism which threaten unity and stability of our nation.

It is high time that we fight against economic disparities and

RESOLUTION IX

On the Punjab situation.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation held at Madras on 18-19 September, 1983, would like to remind all the citizens of our country that India is one Nation and that a call for "Separate Nation" is against our national heritage, traditions and culture. The people of India never accepted "multination theory". Even from the time of Ashoka, Akbar, Gandhi, Nehru and Maulana Azad great martyrs like Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Bhagat Singh, Chandra Shekhar Azad, Ashfaqullah and others firmly stood for one nation. Imperialists wanted to divide the Indian Sub-Continent on the basis of 'multi-nations theory'. We have seen the disastrous effects of "Two-nations theory" and its wounds are still afresh. The imperialists are behind the "Sikh nation theory" which lays the genesis for "Khalistan".

The people of Punjab, who unitedly and heroically fought against imperialism for the freedom of our Motherland, cannot afford to have further partition of Punjab. We appeal to all the patriotic people in Punjab to stand together to defeat the forces of balkanisation who are acting under the garb of religious fanaticism and regionalism. We, the freedom fighters, reiterate our pledge to preserve the unity of our country because we strongly feel that all the people of our country are blood of our blood, flesh of our flesh and cannot be separated from each other in the name of religion. We also urge upon the Govt. of India not to have any political negotiations with religious organisations which are not committed to the unity of India and hope that the Gurdwaras will not be allowed to be used by the criminals so that their sanctity could be preserved as a holy place.

RESOLUTION X

On Assam and the North-eastern Border States of India.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation, held at Madras on 18-19 Sept. 1983

RESOLUTION VIII

On Peace, National independence and against establishment of military bases on foreign territories.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation held at Madras on 18-19 Sept., 1983, views with grave concern the continued nuclear arms race which has brought mankind to the brink of a catastrophe. One step in the wrong direction can throw the entire world into the abyss of a nuclear holocaust.

Explosive situation exists in various parts of the world, above all in the Middle East, Latin America, Southern Africa, Southeast Asia, Far East, and presence of U.S. Naval Fleet in Lebanon.

Racial segregation in South Africa and Namibia is a slur on humanity. Aggressions are being committed against sovereign states to deprive them of their national independence. Military conflicts between different countries are provoked from out side to frustrate the aspirations of the people for political and economic independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Small countries, having strategic importance, like Israel and Pakistan are being backed by the international fascists and imperialists to continue as hot-beds of tensions in the Middle East and in the Indian Sub-continent. We deploy direct interference of imperialist forces in Chad.

The net work of military bases on foreign territories is expanding. The presence of US warships in the Indian Ocean and the expansion of naval bases in Diego Garcia, Gwader in Pakistan, Trincomalee in Sri Lanka. We express our concern over nuclear base in Tibet established by China; in the neighbourhood of India, continue to endanger peace and security in this region.

First—strike nuclearmissiles like the Pershing II and the Cruise missiles are being deployed in the western Europe which has further aggravated the danger of a nuclear conflict which will not only be limited to the continent of Europe but will also affect other continents of the world.

We salute the courage and conviction of millions of people which are struggling for freedom and national independence particularly the people of Palestine, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico and Pakistan.

social injustice with the same spirit with which we fought against British imperialism. The survival of our nation as a democratic sovereign state is closely linked with our aspirations for the establishment of a Socialist Republic. While we appreciate that in the Preamble of our Constitution the word "Socialist" has been incorporated, the time has come to implement Socialist programmes to meet the challenges faced by our nation.

We appeal to Smt. Indira Gandhi, all elected legislators, working class people and freedom fighters of our country to strive for the fulfilment of this historic task to declare India as a Socialist Republic.

RESOLUTION III

On the Release of the Frontier Gandhi from Pak Jail.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation held at Madras on 18-19 Sept. 1983 conveys its strong indignation over the arrest of 93 years old Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan, the doyen of the freedom movement of our Indian Sub-continent. The Frontier Gandhi is being penalised for having expressed his concern over the violations of human rights in Pakistan where a reign of terror has been let loose on the regional minorities like the Baluch, Sindhis and Pakhtoons who are being gunned to death in order to suppress their voice of freedom and democracy. The intellectuals and the women are the special targets for public flogging in Pakistan.

The Frontier Gandhi, who is ailing, represents the conscience of the freedom-loving people of this century.

We, the freedom fighters, who fought for freedom and national independence, express our solidarity with the suffering people of Pakistan who are struggling for the restoration of democracy. This meeting calls upon all the freedom loving people of the world to extend their wholehearted support for the release of Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan and others whose voice is being strangled by the Pak Military Junta backed by international fascists and imperialists.

RESOLUTION IV

On for bringing sacred ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation, held at Madras on 18-19 September, 1983 urges upon the Govt. of India that the sacred Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, twice President of the Indian National Congress and the hero of the Indian Revolution, be brought from Japan to India with national honours and a befitting national memorial be erected in Delhi, commensurate with the great historic and revolutionary role played by him through an armed struggle against British imperialism for the liberation of our country.

RESOLUTION V

On documented History of INA, RIN and South Indian heroes.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation, held at Madras on 18-19 September, 1983, urges upon the Govt. of India that a documented History be published on the revolutionary role played by the INA, the RIN mutiny and Army Revolts and the South Indian heroes who led armed struggle against British imperialism.

RESOLUTION VI

On publishing life sketches of martyrs against British imperialism.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation held at Madras on 18-19 September, 1983, urges upon the Govt. of India that in the centenary year of

the Foundation of the Indian National Congress, a short biography of the martyrs of all freedom struggles who fought against British imperialism, be published to acquaint the present and future generations with the sacrifices made by them in the struggle for our national independence.

RESOLUTION VII

On Nationalisation of Gandhi National Museum.

This meeting of the National Council of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation held at Madras on 18-19 Sept., 1983 strongly feels that the sacred relics of Mahatma Gandhi are not being handled carefully, so much so that even the Relics Register has not been properly maintained in the Gandhi National Museum at Delhi.

Gandhiji does not belong to any political party and as such his memorial should be made a national memorial of international standard and befitting his status as Father of the Nation. We firmly believe that no price is too high to maintain the originality of his relics and its dignity.

We urge the Government to take over the management of the Gandhi National Museum and constitute a Committee comprising of historians, academicians, museologists and freedom fighters to save further deterioration of relics.

We also appeal to the Government that sufficient funds and suitable new comprehensive building should be provided where all the relics of Mahatma Gandhi should be preserved as a national treasure. We firmly believe that it is the patriotic duty of every Indian to protect Gandhiji's relics."



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MEERA SHANKAR
OSD(PMO)

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली 110 011
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
NEW DELHI 110 011

April 16, 1987

2651/JSC/EA/1
20/4
955-DSEA/87
2/4

Dear Shri Kundra,

Please refer to your letter of the 2nd April addressed to the Prime Minister regarding the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

We have requested the Ministry of External Affairs to look into the suggestion which you have made.

Yours sincerely,

(Meera Shankar)

Shri T.N. Kundra,
Convenor,
Freedom Fighters
Relief Committee,
Delhi Administration,
Room No. 46, Old Sectt.,
Delhi.

F.No. 2/64/86PM

Copy along with the copy of the letter under reference to:

Joint Secretary (EA), MEA.

shankar
(Meera Shankar)
OSD(PMO)

File

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20/4
on file
EAD
21/4

SD
21/4

55/13/81-82

(136)
T.N. KUNDRA
CONVENOR

③
No.F.7(3)/Misc/87/FF
DELHI ADMINISTRATION: DELHI
FREEDOM FIGHTERS RELIEF COMMITTEE
ROOM NO.46, OLD SECT., DELHI.

Dated:- 2nd April, 1987.

Respected Prime Minister,

Sub:- Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Controversy regarding the death of Netaji is almost dead now. His family members were not prepared to accept that ashes (believed to be of Netaji) kept in HIKARI KIKAN in Japan are of Netaji. Now we learn that family members of Netaji have withdrawn ~~their~~ their objection.

Col. P.K. Sehgal of I.N.A. has made suggestion regarding bringing of the ashes to India and dispose in the suitable manner. Large number of Freedom Fighters specially belonging to I.N.A. are very much anxious to pay their respect to the ashes in India.

Will it not be desirable that an early action be taken to bring the ashes in India. This will inculcate a spirit of patriotism and sacrifice for the cause of the country.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

T.N. Kundra
(T.N. KUNDRA)

Shri Rajiv Gandhi,
Prime Minister of India,
5, Racecourse Road,
New Delhi-110011.

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T.N. KUNDRA
CONVENOR

No.F.7(3)/Misc/87/FF
DELHI ADMINISTRATION: DELHI
FREEDOM FIGHTERS RELIEF COMMITTEE
ROOM NO.46, OLD SECTT., DELHI.

Dated the April 20, 1987.

Respected Shri Tewari,

Sub:- Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

May I have liberty of seeking your personal attention,
on the above matter.

Enclosed herewith are copies of my letter to the Prime
Minister and reply of Prime Minister's OSD (P.M.O.).

Most of the Freedom Fighters in general and I.N.A.
personnels in particular are emotionally attached to this matter.

May I hope that this matter will be considered at the
highest level so that few surviving patriots may be able to pay
respects to the ashes of Netaji and also ashes are disposed off
in the suitable manner according to the wishes of family members.

Anyother information in this respect may be had from :-

Col. P.K. Sehgal,
14/53-A, Civil Lines,
Kanpur (U.P.)

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(T.N. KUNDRA)

Shri Narain Dutt Tewari,
Union Minister for External Affairs,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

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MEERA SHANKAR
OSD(PMO)

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली 110 011
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
NEW DELHI 110 011

April 16, 1987

No. 2/64/86 PM

Dear Shri Kundra,

Please refer to your letter of the 2nd April addressed to the Prime Minister regarding the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

We have requested the Ministry of External Affairs to look into the suggestion which you have made.

Yours sincerely,

Shankar

(Meera Shankar)

Shri T.N. Kundra,
Convenor,
Freedom Fighters
Relief Committee,
Delhi Administration,
Room No. 46, Old Sectt.,
Delhi.

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T.N. KUNDRA
CONVENOR

127
No.F.7(3)/Misc/87/FF
DELHI ADMINISTRATION: DELHI
FREEDOM FIGHTERS RELIEF COMMITTEE
ROOM NO.46, OLD SECTT., DELHI.

Dated:- 2nd April, 1987.

Respected Prime Minister,

Sub:- Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Controversy regarding the death of Netaji is almost dead now. His family members were not prepared to accept that ashes (believed to be of Netaji) kept in Hikari Kikan in Japan are of Netaji. Now we learn that family members of Netaji have withdrawn their objection.

Col. P.K. Sehgal of I.N.A. has made suggestion regarding bringing of the ashes to India and dispose in the suitable manner. Large number of Freedom Fighters specially belonging to I.N.A. are very much anxious to pay their respect to the ashes in India.

Will it not be desirable that an early action be taken to bring the ashes in India. This will incilcate a spirit of patriotism and sacrifice for the cause of the country.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd./-
(T.N. KUNDRA)

Shri Rajiv Gandhi,
Prime Minister of India,
5, Race Course Road,
New Delhi-110011.

(146)

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~~Ministry of External Affairs~~
~~(East Asia Division)~~

No. C/551/13/81-JP

May 8, 1987.

Dear Shri Kundra,

Please refer to your letter of 20th April, 1987 regarding the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. As your letter itself suggests, you are aware of the controversy surrounding this question. It has figured in our media from time to time and also in the Parliament.

3. One Pandit Nand Lal Sharma (has expired since) ~~reported~~ the Founder President of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation, Jaipur, had filed in July, 1984 a writ petition in the High Court of Judicature for Rajasthan (Jaipur Branch), seeking the ~~court's~~ ^{Court's} orders for:

an open judicial enquiry on international level to know about the whereabouts of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

In his petition Shri Sharma had contended:

(i) ~~that~~ The two Committee/Commission~~s~~ appointed earlier by the Government of India to enquire into the disappearance of Netaji could not come to any definite conclusion; and

(ii) ~~that~~ the story that Netaji died in a plane crash in Formosa was a fabricated one.

4. Evidently the controversy regarding Netaji's disappearance and about his ashes, has continued. Serious reservations were ^{also} expressed by some members of the Netaji's family.

5. Your letter gives the impression of possible rethinking on the part of some members of the Netaji's family on this question. It would be better if those members of the Netaji's family, who have been opposed in the past to the idea of 'Netaji's ashes' being brought to India from the Renkoji Temple

not issued

in Tokyo, were to formally communicate their views to us, if they think differently now.

6. I need hardly state that we all hold Netaji in *the* very high esteem. But at the same time we would be reluctant to do anything which might only add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Narayan Datt Tiwari)

Shri T.N.Kundra,
Convener,
Freedom Fighters' Relief Committee,
Delhi Administration,
Room No. 46, Old Sectt.,
DELHI.

R.S. KALHA
Joint Secretary (EA)

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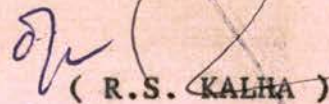
No..C/551/13/81-JP

June 2, 1987

Dear Shri Kundra,

This is to acknowledge your letter dated April 20, 1987, regarding Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, which you addressed to Shri N.D. Tiwari, Minister of External Affairs.

Yours sincerely,


(R.S. KALHA)

Shri T.N. Kundra
Convenor
Freedom Fighters Relief Committee
Room No. 46, Old Secretariat
Delhi Administration
Delhi

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T. N. Kundra

Convenor.



Delhi Administration
Freedom Fighters Relief Committee
Room No. 46, Old Secretariate
Delhi-110054

Ref... F.7(3)/Misc/87/FF

Dated the June 17, 1987
D-472/DS(EA)/87
19/6

Respected Shri Tewari,

Sub:- Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

J.S. (EA)
15/6
DS (EA)
22/6
US (EA)
23/6
S. Kundra

I am in receipt of a letter No.C/551/13/81-JP dated June 2, 1987 from Shri R.S. Kalha, Joint Secretary (EA) acknowledging my letter dated 20.4.1987 to your goodself, on the above subject.

May I request your ~~goodself~~ goodself to kindly spare sometime to consider the matter as an urgent one. If desired other personalities concerned such as Col. P.K. Sehgal, Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Netaji's family members, may also be consulted.

Some of the Netaji's admirers, who visited Japan had to cut a sorry figure, when Japanese enquired why no one from India cared to have ashes of a Hero of Indian Independence.

May this draw your attention.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

T.N. Kundra
(T.N. KUNDR A)

455-1138/SP
Shri N.D. Tewari,
Minister of External Affairs,
Government of India,
New Delhi



(144) 1208-DS/87
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5716/Encl/87
नेताजी सुभाष चंद्र बोस शोध प्रतिष्ठान
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation

(NSCBRF)

Ref. No.

Dated May 20, 1987.

WITH BEST COMPLIMENTS

To

Shri P.L. Santoshi
Joint Secretary (Coord)
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block
New Delhi - 110011.

Encl: 1

V.L. Talekar
(Prof. V.L. Talekar)
Convenor

Kind attention invited to page 4 of Rajasthan Patrika Sunday Magazine, Jaipur dated 17th May, 1987; Feature "Dump the Ashes in Japanese Waters". To do just that would not only win the hearts of Indians but also ensure Indo-Japanese friendship for all times to come!

President
PANDIT NANDLAL SHARMA
Founder President NSCBRF (For life),
Bassi (Jaipur) 303301

Dr. R. M. KASLIWAL
Founder Member NSCBRF,
Chittaranjan Marg, Jaipur 302001

Shri RAMESH CHANDRA SHARMA
Founder Member NSCBRF,
117, Saket, Meerut 250001

Convenor
Professor V. L. TALEKAR
Founder Member NSCBRF,
C-169, Bajaj Nagar, Jaipur 302017

Shri JAGADISH KODESIA
Founder Member NSCBRF,
3-5, Sarva Priya Vihar, New Delhi 110016

Dump the ashes in Japanese waters

Rajasthan
Patrika
Sunday
Magazine
17-5-87

145

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By Prof. V. L. Talekar Convenor, NSCBRF Jaipur

India and Japan, the two largest democracies in Asia, stand today on threshold of a new era in their age-old friendship. This mutual relationship has grown significantly over the years, first in the cultural and political fields and more recently in the cultural and political fields and more recently in the field of economic cooperation to the benefit of both the partners. Much has been said on the Indo-Japan economic cooperation and specially on Indian trade with Japan in these columns and elsewhere. The new Japanese Ambassador, Ei-jiro Noda, who presented his credentials at New Delhi only recently on 28th April, 1987, has already averred that he intends to further promote friendly ties between Japan and India. According to him there are good possibilities for expansion of Indo-Japanese cooperation and trade, despite the steep upvaluation of the Yen in the international market. Already there exists Japanese collaboration like Maruti-Suzuki and Toshiba-Anand in the fields of automobile and transistor cells manufacture. Also currently there is serious talk of collaboration in the field of electronic software manufacture. Planning Commission Member Abid Hussain has promised Indian manpower for this manufacture and huge Indian consumer market for the same. As the trends indicate, one can certainly look forward to further growth and strengthening of friendly ties, provided the soft corns are not stepped upon, for each country has its share of soft corns. One such corn for India is the issue of so-called "Netaji Ashes" reposing at Renkoji temple in Japan.

It may be recalled that there has been immense Japanese cooperation in our freedom movement and Netaji's armed fight against the British during the Second World War. It was Japan that gave political shelter to the great nationalist and revolutionary Ras Behari Bose who finally became a Japanese national and married a Japanese lady. He was the president of Indian Independence League in South-East Asia and in June 1943 with Japanese assistance brought Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Germany to shoulder the responsibilities of Indian National Army and Azad Hind Government. Netaji's first broadcast in the South-Eastern War Theatre to his countrymen was from Tokyo Radio station on his arrival there. Apart from help during Netaji's war on the British and their allies, it was Japan again that helped Netaji to escape after its defeat in August 1945 and circulated the story of Netaji's so-called death in a plane crash at Taihaku (Taiwan) airport on 18th August, '45. Not only that, to give credence to their story the

Japanese planted the so-called "Netaji Ashes" at Renkoji temple. While doing all this in their sincere efforts to help Netaji to escape, the Japanese never could have dreamt that their alibi would be turned in future into "truth" by the two commissions, first Shah Nawaz Commission of 1956 appointed by Jawahar Lal Nehru and thereafter Khosla Commission of 1971, appointed by Indira Gandhi, both in succession being the first two Prime Minister of free India! But the fact remains that the planted remains of Netaji have been a source of headache to both the Government and their respective citizens.

Seal of death

In the above context, it will be remembered that there had been a concerted attempt during the Indira Gandhi regime to bring the remains from Renkoji temple to India and instal the same in Delhi with fanfare so that a "seal of Death" may be put on Netaji once for all. The most unfortunate aspect of the sordid drama was that the leading part was played by an associate of Netaji and an ex-MP Sheel Bhadra Yajee. The project finally had to be given up, thanks to the timely action of another Netaji associate, a strong man from Haryana Uday Singh Dangi of INA - and his group. When the author was recently in Delhi in connection with the statement of Natwar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, made in the Rajya Sabha on 17th March '87 regarding fresh enquiry about Netaji, he got the wind of a similar second attempt in the offing. This time strangely the plea is that it would create good will to immensely strengthen the Indo-Japanese ties of trade and technology cooperation. Unfortunately, for the interested parties the court judgment to be cited in the next para has now become a paramount blocker to any such move. A person or party doing so would thereby commit contempt of court and would have to face the resulting consequences.

It is now well established by a Rajasthan High Court Order, dated 18th Jan, 1986 on the S B Civil Writ Petition 902 of 1984 filed by late Pandit Nandlal Sharma, President of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation (NSCBRF) against the Union of India and others, that Netaji did not die in the so-called plane crash on 18th August 1945. In view of this court order about which enough has been written in these columns, there is no question of any ashes or remains of Netaji. It would, therefore, be in the best interest of both the countries to forget about the so-called "Netaji Ashes" at Renkoji temple and to avoid any further complications dump the same in Japanese waters!



(SA) (146)
REGISTERED A.D.

Legal Notice

नेताजी सुभाष चंद्र बोस शोध प्रतिष्ठान
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation

(NSCBRF)

Ref. No.

Jaipur

Dated 15 August 1987

The Minister of State Shri K. Natwar Singh
Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India
South Block
New Delhi - 110011

Sub: (i) The proposed plan to bring the so called ashes of
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose to India from Japan and
(ii) Compliance of Rajasthan High Court order dated
18.1.1986 on S.B. Civil Writ No.902 of 1984, Nand Lal
Sharma V/s Union of India.

Dear Sir:

I, in my capacity as advocate of Netaji Subhash Chandra
Bose Research Foundation, Jaipur, do hereby write to you in
respect of the above subject as under :-

1. That you must be well aware that the Rajasthan High Court had issued directions as per order cited in the subject to the Union of India to enquire afresh into the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose through its Ministry of External Affairs. The directions of the Rajasthan High Court together with the said order dated 18.1.1986 have been communicated to the Ministry of External Affairs and also to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. That I regret to write that no enquiry has been started in respect of the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose even though a substantive long period has elapsed since the order of the Rajasthan High Court.
3. That I regret to write that further to avoid compliance, I understand, the Government of India and the Government of

President

PANDIT NANDLAL SHARMA

Founder President NSCBRF (For life),
Bassi (Jaipur) 303301

Dr. R. M. KASLIWAL

Founder Member NSCBRF,
Chittaranjan Marg, Jaipur 302001

Shri RAMESH CHANDRA SHARMA

Founder Member NSCBRF,
117, Saket, Meerut 250001

Convenor

Professor V. L. TALEKAR

Founder Member NSCBRF,
C-169, Bajaj Nagar, Jaipur 302017

Shri JAGADISH KODESIA

Founder Member NSCBRF,
3-5, Sarva Priya Vihar, New Delhi 110016

of Japan are jointly planning to bring the socalled ashes of Netaji Subhash Bose to India from Japan with active cooperation of self interested persons. While arguing the petition SBCW 902/1984, the petitioner had proved on the basis of authentic documents that Netaji did not die in any plane crash whatsoever on 18th August 1945. The Rajasthan High Court, therefore, thought it proper to ask the GOVERNMENT of India to enquire afresh into disappearance of Netaji. The Government of India is not obeying the said order in any way and is trying to avoid the same by bringing the socalled ashes from Japan to India, thereby wrongly putting a seal of death on Netaji inspite of the said order. My client, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Foundation, Jaipur who is legal successor to then petitioner Nand Lal Sharma rightly believe that so called ashes of Netaji are fake because since Netaji did not die in any plane crash whatsoever there cannot be any ashes of his.

4. That I hereby bring to your notice that in such circumstances the bringing of socalled ashes of Netaji to India from Japan will constitute disobedience of the High Court order and therefore shall form a legal cause for filing an application in Rajasthan High Court under the contempt of courts Act against any one who participates, helps or abates such an action.

You are therefore requested to refrain from bringing any socalled ashes of Netaji to India from Japan. This may be taken as a legal notice/warning to you and your Government and to one and all if so engaged that the consequences of such an action will be entirely your own responsibility.

Yours truly

G. L. Pareek

Ganga Lahari Pareek
Advocate for
Netaji Subhash Chandra
Bose Research Foundation,
C-169, Bajaj Nagar
Jaipur - 302017.

GA.

(147)

55

1725/P11/87

156

23/9

Govt of India
Prime Minister's Office
New Delhi-110011

9249/2A7/8

No. 887521
Date. 18/9

Memorandum

Communication dated _____ is forwarded to the Ministry/
Deptt of External Affairs, New Delhi
for appropriate action.

The communication has not been acknowledged.

9/10/87



Section Officer

IMMEDIATE

PRAJATANTRA IMPHAL,
MANIPUR, INDIA.

Imphal September 7, 1987

Dear Shri Rajiv Gandhi,

12 SEP 1987

Kindly accept my namaskar. I have received a very important letter dated August 26, 1987 from Mr T. Shimoda, 5-19-6 Inamuragasaki Kamakura-SHI Kamakura KEN-248, Japan yesterday. He is very respected old Japanese Ex soldier who fought side by side with INA of Netaji Subashchandra Bose against allied forces during II World War in Manipur for Independence of India.

He informed me that LT. General T. Katakura, defender the Netaji bones want to send the remains to Moirang (Manipur) to burry it under Netaji Bronze Statu~~te~~ at Moirang. They don't want to keep it at the Temple, Nakano, Tokyo. They felt that India did not care of it for last 42 years. (photo copy of his letter is enclosed herewith)

I had received a letter No I665-EAM/84 dt June 21, 1984 from Shri P. Narashimha Rao when he was External Affiars Minister. He has written the letter to me at the instance of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi Prime Minister. Since Japan expresses her desire to send the remains of Netaji to India, it is high time to do something. If the Japan does not care it and throw it to somewhere, it will hurt the sentiment of millions of Indian including several lakhs of freedom fighters. It may create political problem in near future. The remains is under care of a private Group.

I am going to Japan as tourist on October 10 and will stay upto October 15. I am planning to go to Indian Embassy on October 12, 1987, If anything to be suggested about it, you may kindly communicate to Indian Embassy at Tokyo.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

(L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH)

cc Shri Eduardo Felerio
Shri K. Natwar Singh

OK a/c
Manghant
M/o External
2/15/99

15.9.87

P. J. Sengupta

US(EA)

23/9

Gupta
B/K

138 (149)

Kamakura August 26, 1987.

Dear Mr. L. Jaychandra Singh.

The deceased Mr. Netaji Is now sleeping only one solitary as long
(Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose)
as for 42 years at the Temple, Nakano Tokyo in Japan.

Our honorary president Mr. T. Nakai said at the 33 Mt. Resinants's
party that his higher officer lieutenant general Mr. T. Katakura,
defender the Netaji's bone and he hopes to return the bone for India.
Now many times it is tried by high officer, but not succeded.

Mr. T. Nakai said " if could , it is the most desireable to bury
the bone in the underground of Moirng Netaji Memorial bronze statue".

So please let me tell your opinion on this matter and if you could,
please consult to Mr. Koireng Singh, Mr. M. Munindra, Singh
If necessary for me I will send the letter directly to them.

Please advice for me.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

T. Shimoda

(T. SHIMODA)

P.S.

Let me know soon when the date of arrival to Tokyo,
as for appointment for the hotel, and schedules to be
make fixed.



विदेश मंत्री
भारत
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INDIA

No. 1665-EAM/84

New Delhi
June 21, 1984

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh,

Please refer to your letter of 23rd May 1984, addressed to the Prime Minister, suggesting that the remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose should be brought to India from the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo where they are at present.

As your letter itself suggests, you are aware of the controversy surrounding this question, including the serious reservations expressed by some members of Netaji's family. This controversy has figured in our media from time to time and also in the Parliament.

I need hardly state that we all hold Netaji in very high esteem. But, at the same time we would be reluctant to do anything which might only add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains. Your letter gives the impression of possible rethinking on the part of some members of the Netaji family on this question. It would be better if those members of the Netaji family who have been opposed to this idea in the past were to formally communicate their views to us, particularly if they think differently now.

I fully agree with you that there should be a national consensus on this question before the Government takes a formal decision so that a controversy in any form is avoided at a later stage. Any efforts on your part towards this end would be most welcome.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

P.V. Narasimha Rao
(P.V. Narasimha Rao)

Shri L. Joychandra Singh
Prajatantra Buildings
Imphal
(Manipur)

सकता !

विश्वास !!

1501

बलिदान !!!



अ.भा. आजाद हिन्द संघ



निवास अध्यक्ष
२१६ - प्रेमपुरी, मेरठ शहर
(यू.पी.) - २५०००२

सचिवालय
३१/३३ राजेन्द्र नगर,
नई दिल्ली - ११००६०

दिनांक 20-9-87.

Respected Sir,

With great respect this humble petition is brought before your honour to register our strongest protests against the evil designs and nefarious efforts of certain individuals and institutions having vested interests in declaring that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in the alleged plane crash. For once the demand of bringing back the so called ashes of Netaji from Renkeji Temple Tokyo, Japan is accepted, the theory of his death in the alleged plane crash will be established despite the fact that it is all concocted. We would also like to refresh your memory on the following facts.

(a) First of all in 1957 Shah Nawaz Commission was appointed to probe into the matter of the death of Netaji Subhash in a plane crash. Three members constituted the Commission namely Shah Nawaz Khan, B. Mitra & Suresh Bose. The Commission submitted its report confirming the death of Netaji in the alleged plane crash but Suresh Bose dissented and gave strong un rebutted reasons for his dissension. Moreover the Shah Nawaz who gave his report declaring the death of Netaji in the alleged plane crash was the same Shah Nawaz who had at no earlier occasion agreed to the suggestion of the death of Netaji

contd....2

सकला !

विश्वास !!

1527

बलिदान !!!

15



अ.भा. आजाद हिन्द संघ



निवास अध्यक्ष
२१६-प्रेमपुरी, मेरठ शहर
(यू.पी.) २५०००२

सचिवालय:-
३१/३३ राजेन्द्र नगर,
नई दिल्ली - ११००६०

दिनांक _____

-: 2 :-

in the plane crash instead he had vociferously declared in 1946 at a large public meeting in Lahore and later in 1951 before a heavy crowd in Calcutta, from various platforms during his election campaign in 1952, in Personal interviews in Meerut to several magazines, papers and individuals including the undersigned that Netaji is alive and that the plane crash theory is fabricated.

(b) In April 1964 Jawahar Lal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India had written a personal letter to Sri Aniya Nath Bose nephew of Netaji, that 'Some thing should be done to finalise the disappearance of Subhash' which clearly shows that Pt. Nehru also did not believe the cock and bull story of the alleged Plane crash and the death of Netaji.

(c) In 1966 350 members of Parliament presented a memorandum to Smt. Indira Gandhi to further probe the issue and Khosla Commission was thus appointed. The appointment of Khosla Commission itself proved the hollowness of the report of Shah Nawaz Commission. But ~~xxx~~ alas the report of Khosla Commission was so incomplete, off the track, phoney and contradictory to facts that the mentions of them shall require a full volume.

However Khosla Commission report was challenged in the

contd....3

सकला !

विश्वास !!

153

बलिदान !!!



अ.भा. आज़ाद हिन्द संघ



निवास अध्यक्ष
२१६ - प्रेमपुरी, मेरठ शहर
(यू.पी.) - २५०००२

सचिवालय
३१/३३ राजेन्द्र नगर,
नई दिल्ली - ११००६०

दिनांक _____

-: 3 :-

Parliament. Mr. Samar Guha M.P. gave a touching speech in the Parliament, consequently the report was disapproved and set aside by the Government and it was declared that there was no cogent reason to believe the story of the alleged plane crash and the death of Netaji.

(d) Mr. Nakasone, the Prime Minister and Gen. Fujiwara of Japan visited India and requested the Govt. of India to agree to bring back the so-called ashes of Netaji from the Renkoji Temple Tokyo Japan, but their request was not acceded to, for obvious reasons.

(e) Mr. Nand Lal Sharma, President of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation Rajasthan had filed a writ petition in the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Jaipur and on Jan. 1966 the Hon'ble High Court had directed the Union Government to "examine afresh with an open mind" the disappearance of the freedom movement leader and the Central Govt. has agreed to re-examine the cause of the disappearance of Netaji.

All the aforesaid and other facts speak volumes of truth and make us believe that the story of alleged plane crash has no leg to stand and the question of the death of Netaji in the alleged plane crash does not arise at all. We can thus conclude

contd.....

सकता !

विश्वास !!

1548

बलिदान !!!



अ.भा. आजाद हिन्द संघ



दिनांक _____

निवास अध्यक्ष
२१६- प्रेमपुरी, मेरठ शहर
(यू.पी.) २५०००२

सचिवालय
३१/३३ राजेन्द्र नगर,
नई दिल्ली - ११००६०

-: 4 :-

that the ashes kept in Renkoji Temple of Tokyo are not of Netaji, are fake and deserve no attention.

Now, certain individuals for some ulterior motives have many a time blown their trumpet demanding that said ashes be brought to India. Their efforts, till date, have not yielded. But again certain individuals and institutions have been trying to persuade the Govt. to agree to bring the said ashes to India. These persons and institution have no base in the public. By their nefarious activities they want to appear in news paper lines. They have hatched a conspiracy to mislead the Govt. for their own self-fish motives. We, therefore, appeal to your excellency to take care of the matter personally and frustrate any effort of such people to bring the said ashes to India. People don't believe the theory of Air crash and the public is sentimently affected to the name of Netaji. Any design to play with it shall be disastrous. ~~Any~~ Any effort done to bring the said ashes to India shall be vehemently opposed by the Public and the persons behind it shall be condemned.

contd....5

सकता !

विश्वास !!

155

बलिदान !!!



अ.भा. आज़ाद हिन्द संघ



निवास अध्यक्ष
२१६ - प्रेमपुरी, मेरठ शहर
(यू.पी.) - २५०००२

सचिवालय
३१/३३ राजेन्द्र नगर,
नई दिल्ली - ११००६०

दिनांक _____

-: 5 :-

We are sure that your excellency shall invoke your good offices and restrain any attempt to bring the alleged ashes to India.

Jai Hind.

Yours faithfully,

(D.K. Jain)

President

All India Azad Hind Sangh,

Sh. K. Natwar Singh,
Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs,
Govt. of India,
NEW DELHI.

156

Phone No { 20147 (o)
20471 (R)
21538 (o)
21494 (o)

PRAJATANTRA IMPHAL,
MANIPUR, INDIA.

IMMEDIATE

Imphal September 7, 1987

Dear Shri Rajiv Gandhi,

Kindly accept my namaskar. I have received a very important letter dated August 26, 1987 from Mr T. Shimoda, 5-I9-6 Inamuragasaki Kamakura-SHI Kamakura KEN-248, Japan yesterday. He is very respected old Japanese Ex soldier who fought side by side with INA of Netaji Subashchandra Bose against allied forces during II World War in Manipur for Independence of India.

He informed me that LT. General T. Katakura, defender the Netaji bones want to send the remains to Moirang (Manipur) to bury it under Netaji Bronze Statu~~te~~ at Moirang. They don't want to keep it at the Temple, Nakano, Tokyo. They felt that India did not care of it for last 42 years. (photo copy of his letter is enclosed herewith)

I had received a letter No I665-EAM/84 dt June 21, 1984 from Shri P. Narashimha Rao when he was External Affairs Minister. He has written the letter to me at the instance of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi Prime Minister. Since Japan expresses her desire to send the remains of Netaji to India, it is high time to do something. If the Japan does not care it and throw it to somewhere, it will hurt the sentiment of millions of Indian including several lakhs of freedom fighters. It may create political problem in near future. The remains is under care of a private Group.

I am going to Japan as tourist on October 10 and will stay upto October 15. I am planning to go to Indian Embassy on October 12, 1987, If anything to be suggested about it, you may kindly communicate to Indian Embassy at Tokyo.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

(L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH)

cc Shri Eduardo Felerio
Shri K. Natwar Singh

h
26/10

28/10

28/10

(156)

Kamakura August 26, 1987.

Dear Mr. L. Jeychandra Singh.

The deceased Mr. Netaji is now sleeping only one solitary as long
(Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose)
as for 42 years at the Temple, Nakano Tokyo in Japan.

Our honorary president Mr. T. Nakai said at the 33 Mt. Resiment's
party that his higher officer lieutenant general Mr. T. Katakura,
defender the Netaji's bone and he hopes to return the bone for India.
Now many times it is tried by high officer, but not succeded.

Mr. T. Nakai said " if could , it is the most desireable to bury
the bone in the underground of Moirng Netaji Memorial bronze statue".

So please let me tell your opinion on this matter and if you could,
please consult to Mr. Koirang Singh, ~~Mr. M. M. Singh~~ (N. A. Singh)

If necessary for me I will send the letter directly to them.

Please advice for me.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

T. Shimoda

(T. SHIMODA)

P.S.

Let me know soon when the date of arrival to Tokyo,
as for appointment for the hotel, and schedules to be
make fixed.

157

विदेश मंत्री
भारत

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INDIA

No. 1665-EAM/84

New Delhi
June 21, 1984

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh,

Please refer to your letter of 23rd May 1984, addressed to the Prime Minister, suggesting that the remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose should be brought to India from the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo where they are at present.

As your letter itself suggests, you are aware of the controversy surrounding this question, including the serious reservations expressed by some members of Netaji's family. This controversy has figured in our media from time to time and also in the Parliament.

I need hardly state that we all hold Netaji in very high esteem. But, at the same time we would be reluctant to do anything which might only add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains. Your letter gives the impression of possible rethinking on the part of some members of the Netaji family on this question. It would be better if those members of the Netaji family who have been opposed to this idea in the past were to formally communicate their views to us, particularly if they think differently now.

I fully agree with you that there should be a national consensus on this question before the Government takes a formal decision so that a controversy in any form is avoided at a later stage. Any efforts on your part towards this end would be most welcome.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.V. Narasimha Rao)

Shri L. Joychandra Singh
Prajatantra Buildings
Imphal
(Manipur)

CONFIDENTIAL.

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03(262) 2391

Oct. 16, 1987

5/4186/EA/87
10/11

Deputy Chief of Mission

No. TOK/551/1/81

My dear Rangit,

I am enclosing herewith a note on a recent meeting I had with Shri L. Jaychandra Singh, a resident of Imphal and a group of Japanese Imperial Army veterans, who visited Imphal in December last year to honour the memory of those who had died there during the war.

2. There are more and more Japanese Imperial Army veterans who wish to visit this area. I realise that there will be both administrative as well as security considerations that will have to be taken into account before more visits are permitted. However, I believe that we can generate a great deal of goodwill if we could facilitate more such visits in the future. This is particularly so because many of these veterans are in influential positions in Japanese industry and commerce as well as in politics.

3. As you will note, Shri Jaychandra Singh also raised the delicate question relating to disposal of Netaji's ashes. Sooner or later we will have to deal with this problem one way or the other. The Japanese individuals concerned seem to be getting somewhat impatient.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Shyam Saran)

Shyam

Shri R.S. Kalha,
Joint Secretary(EA),
Min. of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

Ceella
14/8/87

About the visits of Japanese, we might explore with MHA. About Netaji's ashes, I wish our Embassy would show more discretion and stay away from it.

File

14/8/87

File in Netaji file
in separate written
memo on Imphal pilgrimages

CS
7/11

EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO

This morning, Shri L. Jaychandra Singh, a journalist from Imphal, came to see me. According to his name card, Jaychandra Singh is Chairman and Chief Editor of a paper called Prajatantra and is Bureau Chief of UNI in Imphal. He claims to have personal acquaintance with the Prime Minister as also several other important political figures in India.

2. Shri Jaychandra Singh came to speak to me about the remains of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. He said that he had met General Katakura (now 85) and General T. Akai of the former Imperial Army, who had urged him to arrange the return of Netaji's remains, now in ☐ Temple, to India. They told him that no one was taking care of the remains and once their generation died, the remains would not even be honoured occasionally as at present. Both had served with Netaji during the war.

3. According to Jaychandra Singh, the former External Affairs Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao, had written to him in 1984 to help solve the problem. He claims to have close links with Netaji's relations as also representatives of old Japanese Imperial Army. In fact, it is he who seems to have taken the lead in organising the first ever visit by a 5-man Japanese delegation to Imphal late last year for memorial services.

4. Jaychandra Singh said that one of the suggestions made was that remains could be temporarily kept in the Embassy in Tokyo pending a final resolution of the controversy surrounding them. He asked what our reaction would be.

5. I told Mr. Jaychandra Singh that the question of disposal of the remains was a delicate one since it also involved the surviving relatives of Netaji. It was not appropriate for the Government to get involved in the controversy and for this reason there would be no question of the remains being kept in the Embassy. I said we understood the anxiety of the old Japanese associates of Netaji to see a proper resting place for his remains. As before we would counsel a little patience and understanding while the matter is sorted out in India among the people concerned.

6. Jaychandra Singh said he would, on his return to India, meet officials of our Ministry as well as the relatives of Netaji to find a solution to this

"delicate" question. I told him I would report our meeting to Ambassador and our Ministry for their information.

7. Jaychandra Singh later brought several Japanese gentlemen to see me. These included three members of the old Japanese Imperial Army who had fought in the Burma theatre - Mr. Yutaka Kobayashi (retired Electrical Engineer), T. Shimoda (Kokusai Futo Co.), T. Ishigami (works as Interpreter in the U.S. Embassy) and A. Isoda. Of these, Kobayashi & Isoda were members of the 5-member group which visited Imphal last year. Shri Jaychandra Singh had played host and facilitated their travel.

8. I explained to the group the problem involved in shifting Netaji's remains from Tokyo to India at present, involving as does the sensitivities of Netaji's family members. I expressed gratitude to all the old associates of Netaji who still cherished his memory and continued to look after and revere his remains. They seemed to understand our difficulties. At any rate they made no comment.

9. Mr. Shimoda said that a number of old Japanese soldiers were very keen to visit Kohima and Imphal and requested our assistance. I said it should be possible for small groups to go, though we were hampered by lack of facilities in the areas concerned. At any rate, I promised all possible assistance. Shimoda and his colleagues expressed their appreciation.

10. I briefed our visitors on the Festival of India. They showed very keen interest and said they would like to inform other colleagues of the forthcoming event. Old soldiers of the Imperial Army have several associations & societies which meet regularly and publish their own newsletters. Shimoda gave me a copy of one such newsletter (of the 33rd Mountain Artillery Corps of the old Imperial Army), which carries a report on the visit to Imphal by the 5-member group (A copy is attached). Shimoda promised to publicise the Festival through such newsletters. I asked them to come and visit us again in the future.

11. Shri Jaychandra was very happy that I had received this group of Japanese, who had apparently been somewhat diffident and uncertain about coming to the Embassy. They seemed pleased and honoured to be received at the Embassy and displayed genuine

friendliness and affection for India.

12. We may inform EA Division of Shri Jaychandra Singh's visit and his reference to the problem of Netaji's remains. EA Division could also explore with the Manipur Government and with the Home Ministry the prospects of facilitating more visits by Japanese to Kohima and Imphal. This would earn us a great deal of goodwill among an influential section of Japanese society.

Shyam Saran

(Shyam Saran)

Dy. Chief of Mission

Oct. 15, 1987

Ambassador.

L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

6850/JS (C&D)/87
11/11

5073/JS (C&D)/87

10-11-87

Phone No { 20147 (o)
20471 (R)
21538 (o)
21494 (o)

162

PRAJATANTRA IMPHAL,
MANIPUR, INDIA.

Imphal 7 Nov. 1987.

Dear Shri Gokla,

As per letter of our External Affairs Minister No.1665 - EAM/84 dt. 21 June 1984 (Photo Copy is enclosed herewith), I have been keeping in touch with members of the Netaji Family and those people who are taking care of the remains of Netaji in Renkoji Temple in Tokyo.

I have been to Tokyo on my way home from U.K. and U.S.A. By taking the opportunity, I met those Japanese who are taking care the remains of Netaji and Shri Shyam Sharma of Indian Embassy in Tokyo. I have also visited Renkoji Temple and found from the records that President Shri Rajendra Prasad visited on 4.10.1958, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru on 13.10.1957 and Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi on 26.6.1969.

Those Japanese who are taking care of the remains want to return it to India. Even they want to move it to the Indian Embassy in Tokyo. They said there will be nobody to look after the remains, if Lt. General (Rtd.) Katakura (90) dies. They said they have been looking after it for last 42 years and a time has come, India to do something about it.

Shri Shyam Sharma said that he has no objection if the Government of India and family members of Netaji agrees to this purposal.

I met Dr. Sisir Bose, nephew of Netaji in Calcutta, he also wants to keep it in Indian Embassy till the controversy on it is over in India. We have got special respect for Netaji as his INA has liberated a part of Manipur in 1944 and hoisted first Tri-colour flag in the free Soil of India.

I shall be very grateful, if you kindly communicate your views on this matter.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

(Signature)
(L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH)

Shri Gokla
Secretary (East)
Ministry of External Affairs,
Govt. of India
South Block
New Delhi.



विदेश मंत्री
भारत

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INDIA

No. 1665-EAM/84

New Delhi
June 21, 1984

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh,

Please refer to your letter of 23rd May 1984, addressed to the Prime Minister, suggesting that the remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose should be brought to India from the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo where they are at present.

As your letter itself suggests, you are aware of the controversy surrounding this question, including the serious reservations expressed by some members of Netaji's family. This controversy has figured in our media from time to time and also in the Parliament.

I need hardly state that we all hold Netaji in very high esteem. But, at the same time we would be reluctant to do anything which might only add to the controversy surrounding Netaji's remains. Your letter gives the impression of possible rethinking on the part of some members of the Netaji family on this question. It would be better if those members of the Netaji family who have been opposed to this idea in the past were to formally communicate their views to us, particularly if they think differently now.

I fully agree with you that there should be a national consensus on this question before the Government takes a formal decision so that a controversy in any form is avoided at a later stage. Any efforts on your part towards this end would be most welcome.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

P.V. Narasimha Rao
(P.V. Narasimha Rao)

Shri L. Joychandra Singh
Prajatantra Buildings
Imphal
(Manipur)



Golden Casket where
the remains of Netaji
is keeping in Renkoji
Temple, in Tokyo



myself inside the
Temple

3

當寺に参ってイタジの聖なる遺骨にお祈りを
捧げる事を私の幸福とするところであり

1958年10月4日 ラジェントラ プラサット大統領

Rajendra Prasad

佛陀の使命が人類に平和をもたらす様に
祈ります

1957年10月13日 ジャワハルネー首相

Jawahar Lal Nehru

御仏の光が真心と平和に向って人々のために
永久に私達を導かれんことを

1969年6月26日 インディラ・ガンジ首相

Indira Gandhi

Board at the
entrance of Renshiki
Temple

碑のボンドチャップス

雲舟に集って大団圓に遊ばせられた
 林江守をしのぶ碑として建てられました
 1958年10月14日 芳名募り 芳名募り
 満洲の使命や人類に平和をもたらす
 所ります
 1957年10月13日 芳名募り 芳名募り
 雲舟に集って大団圓に遊ばせられた
 林江守をしのぶ碑として建てられました
 1958年10月14日 芳名募り 芳名募り

~~SECRET~~

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(East Asia Division)

...

SUBJECT: Return of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

The ashes of Netaji are placed in an urn which is maintained at the Rinkoji Temple in Tokyo. The Government of India had appointed an Enquiry Committee in 1956 headed by the late Shah Nawaz Khan and including Shri S. C. Bose, the elder brother of Netaji. The majority opinion of the Committee was that Netaji met his death in an air crash on 18th August, 1945 and the ashes in Rinkoji Temple are of Netaji. Shri S. C. Bose had dissented from this view. A one man commission of Enquiry Committee of Justice G. D. Khosla was appointed in 1970 and he too concluded that the casket lodged in the Rinkoji Temple contained the ashes of Netaji.

2. In January 1982 Shri S. C. Bose, the brother of Netaji wrote to the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi saying that "there is no convincing proof that the so-called ashes are genuine and that of my brotherunder the circumstances it would be wrong to pass off the so-called ashes as genuinely being that of Netaji..... it is besides the point as to whether Netaji is still alive or not". He opposed the ashes being brought to India and we have no indication that his attitude has undergone any change.

3. In response to a Lok Sabha Question on 25.2.1982 the then Foreign Ministers have said that various opinions have been expressed regarding the urn said to contain Netaji's ashes and that Government have noted the views of all concerned to decide on the most appropriate course of action.

4. Prime Minister Nehru had visited the Rinkoji Temple in 1957 followed soon after by President Rajendra Prasad. Smt. Indira Gandhi had also visited the temple in 1969 as did Shri A. B. Vajpayee and Shri P. V. Narsimha Rao when they officially visited Japan as Foreign Ministers in 1977 and 1982. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi did not, however, visit the temple during his visit to Japan in 1985. He had been invited to do so by the Chairman of the Netaji Subhash Academy which consists of various retired officials of World War II Vintage who had an association with Netaji when they were in the Japanese Imperial Army. It is the leading members of this Academy who have made several representations seeking to send the ashes to India. They are aware of the views of the family of Netaji who do not accept the validity and consequently the return of the ashes. The views of Netaji's daughter on the subject are not known.

5. The Japanese Government have not officially requested us to accept these ashes. In 1984 the Japanese

press had reported that Mr. M. Fujio had sought intervention of Prime Minister Nakasone to take up the matter with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Prime Minister Nakasone had not taken up the issue. It is likely that the Japanese Government prefers to side step this issue as it relates to an association that Japanese were time leaders and raises the sceptre of controversy.

6. The ashes have been lying in the Benkoji Temple since 1945. The Government provides an yearly grant to the maintenance of the temple in which the ashes are contained. The main reasons for the return of the ashes which have been put forth have been:

- i) The moral obligation of India to honour the National Hero;
- ii) The chief priest of the temple to whom the ashes were handed over died in 1979 and there is no guarantee that his son the current priest, would have the same reference;
- iii) The leading members of the Netaji Subhash Academy have either passed away or are extremely old and they fear that after their demise there would be nobody left to care for the ashes.

7. Our position has been that pending the resolution of the controversy over the ashes it would not be possible for us to bring the ashes to India.

(Gurjit Singh)
Under Secretary(EA)
16.11.1987

JS(EA)

15

SECRET

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(East Asia Division)

...

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- iii) The leading members of the Netaji Subhash Academy have either passed away or are extremely old and they fear that after their demise there would be nobody left to care for the ashes.

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(Garjit Singh)
Under Secretary(EA)
16.11.1987

JS(EA)

(69) 167
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

...

A case was filed in the Rajasthan High Court by Shri Nand Lal Sharma asking the court to direct the institution of an open judicial enquiry at an international level to discover the whereabouts of Netaji and seek his release. The petition was filed on 26.7.1984.

2. The Coordination Division's file No. AA/551/15/87 - part refers. On January 18, 1986 the Rajasthan High Court had directed the Government of India to hear the petitioner Pt. Nand Lal Sharma in person and examine the documents/evidence that he wants to produce in this connection with the the circumstances of the disappearance of Netaji.

3. However, the petitioner passed away before this meeting between the MEA/GOI representative and the petitioner could take place.

4. The Coordination Division informed the convenor of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Research Foundation (Prof. V.L. Talekar) that as the petitioner has passed away no further action is called for on the part of the
[the order of] GOI on the basis of [Rajasthan High Court. (30.10.87)].

(Gurjit Singh)
Under Secretary(EA)
23.11.1987

Netaji file

Chester
23/11/87

(61) 168
~~SECRET~~

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(East Asia Division)

...

SUBJECT: Return of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

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5. The Japanese Government have not officially requested us to accept these ashes. In 1984 the Japanese

cont..2..

~~SECRET~~

.. " 2 " ...

press had reported that Mr. M. Fujio had sought the intervention of Prime Minister Nakasone to take up the matter with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi; Prime Minister Nakasone had not taken up the issue. It is likely that the Japanese Government prefers to side step this issue as it relates to an association with Japanese war time leaders and raises the sceptre of controversy, to the like of which raises Japan is extremely sensitive

6. The ashes have been lying in the Renkoji Temple since 1945. The Government provides a yearly grant to the maintenance of the temple in which the ashes are contained. The main reasons for the return of the ashes which have been put forth have been:

- i) The moral obligation of India to honour the National Hero;
- ii) The chief priest of the temple to whom the ashes were handed over died in 1979 and there is no guarantee that his son the current priest, would have the same reverence;
- iii) The leading members of the Netajit Subhash Academy have either passed away or are extremely old and they fear that after their demise there would be nobody left to care for the ashes.

7. The Government's position so far has been to await the building up of a National consensus on the question of Netajit's ashes before taking a formal decision to avoid any controversy at the present or at a later stage. This is because of:-

- i) Netaji's brother does not believe that the ashes are genuine. Government have not been informed of any change of this view even held by members of Netaji's family;
- Number of ii) There are great people who believe that Netaji did not pass away in an air crash and yet others who believe that he is still alive;
- iii) The absence of a consensus due to the above views would create political complications if a decision was taken to accept the ashes as genuine and bring them to India. It is understood that Government are in favour of precipitating a controversy on this.

Gurjit Singh
(Gurjit Singh
Under Secretary
23.11.198

JS(EA)

L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

(70) 782/15/12/88

688/25047/88

15/12

15/12/88

Phone No.

20147 (o)
20471 (R)
21538 (o)
21494 (o)

PRAJATANTRA IMPHAL,
MANIPUR, INDIA.

Imphal, Dated,
9-2-1988.

Dear Shri A.B. Gokhale,

As I promised you I am enclosing herewith three photo copies of the letter.

1. Dr. Sisir K. Bose Executive Director, Netaji Research Bureau 38/2 Lala Lajpat Rai Road, Calcutta-20 made a request to the Prime Minister to release 5th volume of collected works of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose (Prime Minister Srimati Indira Gandhi has released upto 4th volume) In reply to his letter Shri M.L. Aseri senior Petition Officer wrote a letter No. F. No.11 (1)85-PMP (III) dt. 25 September, 1985 to Dr. Sisir K. Bose. (Photo copy of his letter is enclosed herewith).

2. Dr. Sisir K. Bose wrote a letter to Shri M.L. Aseri on 4 October, 1985 in reply to his letter (Photo copy of his letter is enclosed herewith).

3. Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose wrote a letter to the Prime Minister on 26 September 1985 saying that he has no objection in bringing back the remains of Netaji from Japan to India.

4. Meanwhile Col. Dhillon, Col. Sagal, Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee told me that I should work hard to bring the remains of Netaji from Japan to India during the 40th Anniversary of Nations Independence.

5. Several hundreds of MPs, MIAs and leaders of all political parties in India are likely to submit an application to the Prime Minister soon with a request to him to kindly take step for bringing the remains of Netaji to India.

P.T.O.

The letter
says he has
no objection
to the Govt
acting in
line of the
Freedom Fights
Organisation's
Resolution.

What did
that Resolution
say?

ABG
18/12/88

JS (CA) 19/2
VSI/EA

L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

171

Phone No. { 20147 (o)
20471 (R)
21538 (O)
21494 (O)

PRAJATANTRA IMPHAL,
MANIPUR, INDIA.

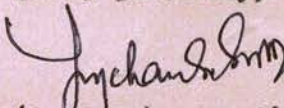
:2:

6. I personally feel that the remains of Netaji should be brought to India from Japan to show the world that Indians are very grateful people.

With kind regards.

Encls: as above

Yours sincerely,


(L. Joychandra Singh)

Shri A.B. Gokhale,
Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India, New Delhi.



F. NO. 11(1)85- PMP-III

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय

नई दिल्ली - 110011

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

NEW DELHI - 110011

Dated: 25th Sept. 1985.

Dear Sir,

Recd
on 3/10/85
J. K. Bose

With reference to your letter dated 10th September, 1985, requesting the Prime Minister to release the 5th volume of the Collected Works of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, I am desirous to regret his inability in the matter. Moreover the Prime Minister now is not inclined to accede to such requests.

Yours faithfully,

M. L. Aseri

(M.L. Aseri)
Senior Petitions Officer

Dr. Sisir K. Bose,
Executive Director,
Netaji Research Bureau,
38/2, Lala Lajpat Rai Road,
Calcutta-700 020.



Basundhara

90 Sarat Bose Road
Calcutta 700 026

Telephone : 474202

Telegrams : Escibos. Calcutta

26 September 1983

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Working President, All India Freedom Fighters Organisation, saw me yesterday about the question of bringing the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to India from Japan. He told me that he had met you recently in this connection. He showed me the text of the resolution adopted by the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation in this regard at its convention held in Madras in September 1983. He told me also that in this matter they had the support of Col. P. S. Raturi on behalf of the All India INA Association.

I made it very clear to Shri Yajee that so far as I was concerned the issue was a national one because I knew that to Netaji his family was coterminous with his country. I agreed with Shri Yajee that the resolution of the Freedom Fighters Organisation reflected the unspoken desire and wishes of millions of Netaji's countrymen and also innumerable Indians abroad. There can therefore be no objection on my part to the Government of India taking necessary and proper steps on the lines proposed in the resolution.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,


Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose

Shri Rajiv Gandhi
Prime Minister of India
New Delhi

Grams : SUVASBOS



Telephone : 48-3999

NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU

An Institute of History, Politics and International Relations

NETAJI BHAWAN

38/2 LALA LAJPAT RAI ROAD • CALCUTTA 700 020

4 October 1985

**Shri M.L. Asari
Senior Petitions Officer
Prime Minister's Office
New Delhi 110011**

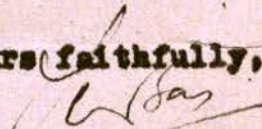
Dear Sir,

I have received your letter F.No.II(1) 85-PMP-III dated 25th September 1985 with reference to my letter to the Prime Minister of 10th September 1985.

My purpose in writing this letter is to make one point absolutely clear. My letter to the Prime Minister of the 10th September 1985 was not a "petition". I do not submit petitions to anybody relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose because that would amount to dishonouring his memory.

I consider the language and contents of your letter to me derogatory to Netaji's memory. Shrimati Indira Gandhi released Netaji's books on our behalf on three occasions and she expressed the view that it was a privilege for any Indian to release or encourage the publication of Netaji's works a view we all share.

Yours faithfully,


**Dr. Sisir K. Bose
Executive Director**

63

(173)

(65)

CONFIDENTIAL

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(East Asia Division)

* * *

Mr. L. Joychandra Singh, who has been actively engaged in trying to get the ashes of Netaji back to India called on Secretary(East) on 3.2.1988. He said he was calling on Secretary after receiving Secretary's letter recently. He recalled the earlier letter written by Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao to him after he wrote to Mrs. Gandhi. He said he was a social worker who had assisted Mrs. Gandhi in her emergency cases and was undertaking this task as Mrs. Gandhi herself was keen to bring Netaji's remains to India. He asserted that Mr. Sisir Bose, the nephew of Netaji has also agreed to his suggestion. He took exception to a letter received by Shri Sisir Bose from a Petition Officer in PMO as he asserted that the letter used any appropriate language.

2. He mentioned that in August 1987 he had visited Japan and met the group of people who are undertaking the maintenance of Netaji's ashes and their leader, General Katakura, is very old and wishes to send the remains to India. He said that he had taken some of the representatives to meet DCM, Embassy of India, Tokyo, who had asked him to contact Secretary. The Japanese Group felt that ~~there~~ there was evidence of Netaji's death and why should the Government of India hesitate to honour his memory. Mr. Joychandra Singh said that he was as a child witness to INA in Manipur and when Gen. Fujiwara used to come for the collection of the remains of the Japanese war dead Mr. Singh used to assist them.

3. Secretary had stated that as indicated in his letter and the letter by Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao no consensus had yet emerged on the issue and there are people who do not accept the ashes as genuine and others who do not accept Netaji's demise. The ashes are well looked after at the Renkoji Temple and are suitably venerated. Mr. Joychandra Singh agreed with this and understood that a complete consensus would be required before the return of the ashes. In his view it was only the Forward Bloc and Mr. Samar Guha who opposed the return of the ashes. He indicated that he would now try and organise the consensus among all parties but this task is difficult because of the mushroom growth of the political parties and he may, perhaps, approach this task by writing to the newspapers.

4. He promised to send copies of letters from Dr. Sisir Bose to the PMO which were received on 15.2.1988. (FR 5062)

(Gurjit Singh)
Under Secretary(EA)
16.2.1988

Indian Express
D-8-2-88

64 174

on it.

Ashes at Renkoji not of Bose: Foundation

JAIPUR, Feb 7 (PTI)

The Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Research Foundation has contested the claim that the ashes preserved at Renkoji temple in Japan were of the commander of the Indian National Army.

The convener of the Foundation, Prof V.R. Talekar, a close associate of Netaji, claimed here on Sunday that the story of Netaji's so-called death in a plane crash at Taihaku (Taiwan) on August 18, 1945 was deliberately circulated to help him escape from Japan after its defeat.

Prof Talekar said Netaji did not die in the plane crash and the Government should initiate a fresh inquiry immediately into the disappearance of the national hero as directed by the Rajasthan High Court by its January 10, 1986 order on a civil writ petition filed by the president of the Foundation, late Nand Lal Sharma.

Sterling-4613A

A.B. GOKHALE
Secretary (E&ER)

175

No. C/551/13/81-JP

1st March, 1988

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh,

Thank you for your letter dated the 9th February, 1988. You have referred in para 3 to the letter dated 26th September, 1985 from Dr. Sisir Bose to the Prime Minister. I find from the copy of that letter enclosed by you that Dr. Bose has referred to the text of a resolution adopted by the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation at its convention in Madras in September 1983. It would help us to consider this matter further if you could kindly send me the text of this resolution.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

AL

↓

(A.B. Gokhale)

Shri Joychandra Singh
Prajantra
IMPHAL (Manipur).

Issued
24/3/88

J1 (EA)

ML
2/3

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G5
7/3

587/449(2x CK)/88

8/2/88

(176)

Hindustan Times

8/2/88

490/73CEA 7/88
8/2

Preserved ashes are 'not Netaji's'

JAIPUR, Feb. 7 (PTI) — The Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation has contested the claim that the ashes preserved at Renkoji Temple in Japan were of the Commander of the Indian National Army.

Convener of the foundation V. R. Talekar, a close associate of Netaji, claimed here today that the story of Netaji's so called death in a plane crash at Taihaku (Taiwan) on Aug. 18, 1945 was deliberately circulated to help him escape from Japan after its defeat.

He said to give credence to their story the Japanese planted the so called Netaji ashes at Renkoji Temple in their "sincere effort to help him", Prof Talekar said.

The Japanese never could have dreamt that their false alibi would be turned into truth in future, he said.

Prof Talekar said Netaji did not die in the plane crash and the Government should initiate a fresh inquiry immediately into the disappearance of the national hero as directed by the Rajasthan High Court by its Jan. 10, 1986 order on a civil writ petition filed by president of the foundation late Nand Lal Sharma.

He said the foundation had already issued legal notices to both the Central Government and the Japanese ambassador in India to desist from bringing the so called ashes to India.

Referring to a recent communication from retired Japanese General Kama Kura to an eminent social worker in Imphal Mr L. Joychandra Singh about his anxiety for handing over the ashes to India, Prof Talekar said the anxiety was useless.

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JS (CEA) 8/2
VS (CEA) 8/2

Netaji file

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L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

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PRAJATANTRA IMPHAL.
MANIPUR, INDIA.
Imphal April 6, 1988

Imphal April 6, 1988

Dear Shri A.B.Gokhale,

Thank you very much for your letter No.C/551/13/81-JP dt. 1st March, 1988 I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Resolution adopted by the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation at its convention in Madras in September, 1983. Kindly see Resolution No.4 on "for bringing the sacred ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose."

on file
11/4
your comments
It may be mentioned here that the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said at a public meeting at Takyel, Manipur on 5th April 1988 that Netaji had sacrificed his life for the cause of freedom. Meanwhile I have received a letter from the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy, Tokyo, Japan that they will give full co-operation with the Government of India, if it decides to take back the remains of Netaji from Rengkoji Temple.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of it.

With kind regards,

Enclo:- as above.

Yours sincerely,

(L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH)

Shri A.B.Gokhale,
Secretary (E & ER)
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi .



A.B. GOKHALE
Secretary (E&ER)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No. C/551/13/81-JP

1st March, 1988

Dear Shri Joychandra Singh,

Thank you for your letter dated the 9th February, 1988. You have referred in para 3 to the letter dated 26th September, 1985 from Dr. Sisir Bose to the Prime Minister. I find from the copy of that letter enclosed by you that Dr. Bose has referred to the text of a resolution adopted by the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation at its convention in Madras in September 1983. It would help us to consider this matter further if you could kindly send me the text of this resolution.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(A.B. Gokhale)

Shri Joychandra Singh
Prajantra
IMPHAL (Manipur).

the matter of any difficulties that might be met regarding the movement etc.

The organisation of the Hikari Kikan was as follows:-

General Imamuto was the Chief of Staff.

Kagawa
Col. Khawa was the Political Staff Officer. *and supply*

the liaison about special service and information.
Lt. Col. Takagi, General Staff Officer, who dealt with the INA soldiers. *(X)*

Major Takahashi, Senior Adjutant.

Lt. Nyui, Junior Adjutant.

Different officers dealt with different functions at the headquarters. In addition there were branches of Hikari Kikan in different places, such as Singapore, Penang, Bangkok, Saigon. There were sub-sections in Djakarta, Manila, Hanoi, Sumatara. In Djakarta, Manila and such other places where there were no INA units, the Hikari Kikan dealt with the local branch of the I.I.L. There were also Hikari Kikan units in the front-line area where the I.N.A. units were operating.

Shortly, after my arrival in Rangoon, it was decided that the INA would take part in the Imphal operations. *in accordance with the plan which was arranged*
Accordingly Netaji went to *Meimyo*
where he had consultations with General Mutaguchi, Commander of the Japanese Army in that front. As a result of these discussions, the INA was deployed for action. During the discussions with General Mutaguchi, it was agreed that the *confirmed again*

any other person whether he is ^{he} an Indian or a Japanese. I stayed in Singapore for about two months. In the beginning of November, I was taken by plane to Delhi to appear as a witness in the Red-Fort trials. On arrival at the Red-Fort, I met Mr. Hachiya and Col. Khagawa. Three or four days after my arrival in Delhi, ~~Max~~ I met Col. Habibur Rehman. His face was badly burnt. His hands were also burnt. I talked to Col. Habibur Rehman and heard the full story about Netaji's death from him. He told me that he had taken the ashes of Netaji to Tokyo. He did not tell me where he had kept those ashes. Later I learnt that those ashes were kept in a temple known as Renkoji Temple. I learnt of this when I arrived in Japan. General Yamamoto ^{Gen KAWABE} and ~~Col. KAGAWA~~ told me about the ashes being kept in ~~the~~ Renkoji temple. Since my arrival in Japan I have been to that temple twice. I went to the temple to pay my homage and respects to Netaji's ashes. Mrs. Tojo, General Kabawe, General Yamamoto and I and ^{with his Secy also} Mr. Murti went to the temple. ^{It was} There was ^{18th August, two years ago} no special occasion but ~~we~~ we carried offerings to pay homage to the memory of Netaji according to Buddhist custom. I do not remember the exact date when I went there next, but I remember that I did go there again to offer my respects.

18th August
2 years
before

18th

204y
Statement by Ex-Lt. Genl. Saburo Isoda,
Manbamachi, Tanogun, Gumma Prefec.,
recorded on 10th May at 3 P.M. at
Tokyo.

On the 7th of January 1944 I
was appointed Chief of the Hikari Kikan
by the Imperial Order in China.
in Tokyo. By the end of the month I
made contact in Tokyo with the Chief
of Army Staff and Chief of the Naval
Staff. Sometime in the month of
January February I went to Singapore.

Previous to this appointment,
I was commanding the 22nd Division in
China with the rank of Lt. General.

At Singapore, I met General
Chatterjee who was the Foreign Minister
to the Provisional Government of Azad
Hind. I met senior officers of the
Hind Fauj in Singapore and left for
Rangoon *about* on the 10th of February.
In Rangoon I met Netaji.

The Hikari Kikan was a liaison
organisation between the Provisional
Government of Azad Hind on the one hand
and the Government of Japan on the other.
At the same time, it was also a liaison
organisation between the I.N.A. and the

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(X)

which were agreed between the Japanese Army and I.N.A. previously.

I.N.A. would function on an equal basis on the front line and that the Indian National Army would receive orders direct from their own Supreme Headquarters under the guidance of Netaji in Rangoon.

In the initial stages in the battle of Imphal, the Japanese and the I.N.A. forces made good headway but later on their advance was halted due to certain difficulties connected with the transport, rations and ammunitions. Early in July 1944, the Japanese and the INA forces had to make a general withdrawal all along the front. Then the INA first concentrated in the area of Mandalay and eventually in the area of Pyinmana.

After the withdrawal, Netaji was disappointed but he ordered reorganisation of his forces and was determined to continue the fight.

In the first instance, previous to the Imphal operations, Netaji thought that the offensive from Akyab side ^{to Chittagong area} would have better chances of success as there was more political activity in that area but later due to other more important military considerations, the Imphal front was selected.

On October ^{about 23} 1944, Netaji left Rangoon for Tokyo, ^{Hainan} via Saigon, Hanoi, Taihoku and Osaka. I accompanied Netaji with Col. Tagawa, Mr. Nigeshi and Lt. Nyui. General Chatterjee,

General Kiani and Col. Habibur Rehman accompanied Netaji.

One of the principal objects of his visit was to arrange for assistance from the Japanese Govt. in the form of repayable loans rather than as outright gifts. The second object was to obtain supplies of arms and ammunition including tanks, guns and supporting weapons. The third object was to increase the strength of the INA.

The loan was arranged payable on a monthly basis. Due to shortage, the Japanese Government could not supply tanks and guns but arranged for a small plane for Netaji and also a small quantity of ammunition.

The Japanese Government recognised the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and agreed to establish diplomatic relation with it. Netaji was not in favour of the relations previously subsisting with the Government of Azad Hind which was something like the relation with the Government of Manchukuo. He wished that there should be a separate and directly accredited Minister or Ambassador to his Govt. Mr. Hachiya was appointed as the Japanese Minister to the Provisional Government. Mr. Hachiya arrived in Rangoon in February 1945 but as he carried with him no credential from

the Emperor, he was not received by Netaji. The credential was subsequently sent to Mr. Hachiya by the Japanese Government.

On his return journey from Tokyo, on the 29th of November, Netaji stayed in Fukuoka due to bad weather and from there proceeded to Shanghai. He reviewed the work of the I.I.L. at Shanghai. At Taihoku, he was held up for three days due to bad weather. From Taihoku, we went to Saigon via Hainan. At Saigon, Netaji met General Count Terauchi, the Supreme Commander of the Southern Japanese Forces. There Netaji informed him of the talks he had with the Japanese Government in Tokyo. From there I proceeded to Rangoon and Netaji went to Singapore. Netaji returned to ^{Rangoon from} Singapore in the end of December after inspecting his troops in Malaya. During the month of January, there was no special activity except that Netaji inspected the INA units. Also during this month, Netaji's ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ birth-day week was celebrated on which occasion, people donated large quantities of gold and jewellery. $1\frac{1}{2}$ times his weight was collected in gold. ^{and jewellery}

In February, Netaji inspected the front accompanied by Col. Habibur Rehman and Major Takahasi, senior Adjutant. Netaji inspected the front-

line area of *Meiktila*

At that time, in a certain sector from the Irrawady river, some of the Army units had surrendered as a result of which, the situation had become very critical. Netaji was keen to visit that sector himself. Netaji went to *Meiktila* and contacted General Shah Nawaz Khan and put him in charge of that front to restore situation. Since the military situation was getting very precarious on that front, I sent a telegram to Netaji advising him not to proceed to the Popa sector as that was considered to be very dangerous. Instead I went there myself with Col. Gulzara Singh.

Lt. General Isoda continued:
12th May 1956. 11 A.M.

....

When Col. Gulzara Singh and I were returning from Popa front to Rangoon, at about midnight a plane dived and machine-gunned our car. This was at about mid-night. Such instances generally occurred. After we returned to Rangoon, Netaji was at Mitkila area. As it was rather dangerous for me to remain there, the British forces having advanced, I was anxious that Netaji should return to Rangoon soon. After inspecting his troops at the front, Netaji returned to Rangoon about the 10th of February 1945. Due to advance of the British forces and withdrawal of our forces, Netaji was rather disturbed and we discussed some of our future plans. Netaji wanted to remove his headquarters to Shanghai and a Branch at Peking and disperse his forces in different parts of China. As the Japanese Military authorities could not provide Netaji with the necessary transport, this plan fell through. Another plan was that the Headquarters would be at Saigon with Branches at Shanghai and Peking or any place in North China and Netaji would inspect these places by plane. The reason for selecting Peking was that Netaji would be nearer Russian territory and so would be in a better

△ page 3

Xa [3 page]

After Netaji retreated to Bangkok from Rangoon, we discussed some of our future plan. ☆

position to contact Soviet Russia. In the beginning, the Government of Japan and the Imperial General H.Q. Tokyo were reluctant to accept this scheme but later when I explained to them that Netaji's intention was not to cut off his relations with Japan ^{even a} ^{little} completely but to have an alternative contact with Russia while maintaining full contact with the Government of Japan, they accepted this plan. This plan was approved by the Government of Japan with regard to Netaji's Government, the INA troops and the Indian Independence League. This was in the middle of May after Netaji came to Bangkok. The normal channel of communication with the Imperial General Headquarters and the Japanese Govt. was through the headquarters of F.M. Count Terauchi but in very urgent cases, we could deal direct with the Imperial General H.Q., Tokyo, under intimation to F.M. Terauchi. The channel of communication from the Japanese Government and the Imperial General H.Q. was the same. The acceptance by the Govt. of Japan of Netaji's plan was conveyed to me direct by the Imperial General H.Q., Tokyo, over the wireless. The intimation was also formally sent to me through the Headquarters of F.M. Count Terauchi. I communicated this decision of the

Government of Japan to Netaji

immediately. I do not know what Netaji's reactions were but he was of the opinion that the Army should start moving towards Saigon.

Eventually, Netaji decided to retire with his headquarters and some I.N.A. units ^{from} to Moulmein on 24th April 1945. Netaji's party arrived in Moulmein about the 1st of May. Netaji's departure from Rangoon was delayed almost to the last minute because Netaji insisted that the Rani of Jhansi unit should be evacuated, from Rangoon before he left Rangoon. At Moulmein Netaji attended to various details for arranging transport for the rest of his party ^{his troops} and the Rani of Jhansi regiment. Having left Moulmein on or about the 10th of May, Netaji arrived in Bangkok on the 14th of May. It was after our arrival in Bangkok that I started negotiations with the Government of Japan regarding Netaji's plans to move his headquarters to Shanghai. □ page 17

□ In Bangkok, Netaji made arrangements for the reception of the troops who were pouring into Bangkok and he also made arrangements to reorganise the units of the Indian National Army. the INA units were accommodated in Choulburi camp near Bangkok.

Later about the middle of June 1945 Netaji left Bangkok for a tour of inspection of units in Singapore and Malaya with the object of raising their morale. I did not accompany Netaji to Singapore. Mr. Hachiya also stayed behind in Bangkok.

Mr. Hachiya had proceeded independently from Rangoon, but at Waw, he met ^{Netaji's} ~~my~~ party and from there to Sittang river he came with Netaji in the same car. Netaji returned from Singapore to Bangkok on 16th of August 1945.

On 9th or 10th of August while listening to Radio broadcasts from San Francisco and Moscow and some other places, I came to know that the Govt. of Japan had started negotiations for surrender through the Russian Govt. Then I came to the conclusion that this was probably correct. I was, therefore, keen that Netaji should return to Bangkok quickly, so that I could explain the situation to him but since Netaji was very busy in the inspection of his troops he could not return before the surrender. On 13th of August I heard over the San Francisco and Moscow Radios that the Govt. of Japan ^{would accept unconditional surrender} had issued a warning order to ^{which was requested by the Allied powers} their armies disclosing their intention to surrender in the near future.

At this stage, too, I tried to contact

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Netaji and asked him to hurry back to Bangkok but this too could not be done. On 13th August after I listened to the Radio broadcasts, I received the following order ^{through the G.H.Q. of F.M. Terauchi} from the Imperial General Headquarters, Tokyo. The order was to the effect -

1. that the Kwantung army in Manchuria will take up a defensive attitude and continue to resist all attacks from Soviet Russia. The main force ^{of the Japanese Army} in the South Pacific Ocean area was to continue fighting as best as it could. ^{in the Pacific Ocean operation}
2. The forces under F.M. Terauchi were to continue to hold their present positions and continue the task already allotted to them, and.
3. that the orders given above relating to the Kwantung army, South Pacific region army and armies under the command of F.M. Count Terauchi, were to be communicated to the Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and the Indian National Army.

Since Netaji was not present in Bangkok,

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then, I communicated this information to General Bhonsle who was the Chief of Staff of I.N.A. I made it clear to General Bhonsle that this order was received from the Imperial General Headquarters in Tokyo and that I did not know what the intention of the Japanese Government was as I had received no information from the Japanese Government in this respect.

I communicated this information to General Bhonsle on the 14th of August.

At mid-day on 15th of August, I heard a special broadcast by the Emperor of Japan asking the Japanese forces to surrender. I communicated this to General Bhonsle. The content of the Emperor's broadcast was that in order to save the Japanese nation from destruction, they had decided to surrender. He appealed to all his forces to obey the surrender order.

General Bhonsle and I sent a telegram to Netaji informing him of the Japanese Government's surrender and requesting him to return to Bangkok immediately.

On 16th of August, Netaji returned to Bangkok. Mr. Hachiya, Lt. Col. Takahagi, Col. Khawa, Lt. Nuyi, General Bhonsle and I went to the aerodrome to receive him. From the

Since I suppose that the Japanese Government will probably accept the request of the unconditional surrender, I hinted General Bhonsle about this point as above stated.

he = the emperor

aerodrome, Netaji came straight to my house which was nearer the aerodrome than Netaji's usual place of residence. I did not remember who accompanied Netaji. I remember that Netaji was accompanied by three or four I.N.A. officers. They had travelled from Singapore in Army bomber. ^{probably his own plane} I do not remember exactly he might have travelled in his own plane. I found Netaji very much depressed.

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General Isoda continued.

2-30 P.M. on 12-5-1956.

....

At my house, we discussed the present situation arising out of the surrender of the Japanese. Netaji expressed a desire to go to Russia. I promised all the help that I could give to Netaji. Netaji had some difficulty regarding funds. Eventually, the plan that was finally settled was that Netaji would first go to Tokyo, thank the Japanese Government for all the assistance that they had given him and secure some more financial aid, if necessary, and then proceed to Russia via Manchuria.

At Bangkok, I made arrangements for two aeroplanes to take us to Saigon. Next day, i.e. on 17-8-1945, early in the morning at about 7 A.M. we left Bangkok by these two planes; in one plane were Netaji, Ayer, Hasan and Habibur Rehman. I do not remember Gulzara Singh was there but later I saw him at Saigon, and in the second plane were myself, Minister Hachiya, my Adjutant, Secretary to Mr. Hachiya and some other Japanese officers. It took us about an hour and a half to reach Saigon. We arrived there at about 10 A.M. Both the planes landed safely at Saigon. At the aerodrome, we were received by Staff Officer Lt. Col. Tada of the Terauchi Army (Southern Army).

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as we alighted from the plane, we were told by Col. Tada that there was only one seat available on the plane and that Netaji alone could go by that plane. On hearing that the Southern Army were prepared to offer only one seat to Netaji, I was very annoyed and told Col. Tada that it was a very regrettable matter that Netaji who had done so much for us, should find difficulty in securing more seats by the plane. In order to secure some more seats in the plane, I decided to go to Dalat ^{near} ~~to~~ the headquarters of F.M. Count Terauchi. I told Netaji of this decision and requested him to proceed to the headquarters of the Indian Independence League, Saigon, and to wait for my return from Dalat. I went to Dalat accompanied by my ^{adjutant} Lt. Nyui. From Saigon I went by a very small plane which could accommodate only two or three passengers. As soon as I arrived at the Dalat aerodrome and was preparing to proceed to the headquarters of F.M. Terauchi, Col. Yano accompanied by another Staff Officer, arrived at the aerodrome. Col. Yano was the Chief of the Information Section at the headquarters of the Southern Army, ^{Dalat} Saigon. He asked me to wait a little at the aerodrome and not meet F.M. Terauchi as no useful purpose would be served by my meeting him then as no plane was available. Shortly

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afterwards, I received a telephone call from General Numata, Chief of Staff of the Southern Army, ^{Dalat} Saigon, informing me that he had brought matters relating to Netaji, to the notice of F.M. Terauchi and that he was hopeful that they would succeed in providing two or three seats besides Netaji in a plane shortly. Having got this assurance from General Numata, I did not consider it necessary to meet F.M. Terauchi, and returned to Saigon by the same plane by which I had gone to Dalat. When I arrived at the Saigon aerodrome, I was told by Col. Tada that besides Netaji only one more seat would be available on the plane. I was very much upset to hear this news as I had been assured at Dalat that at least two or three seats more besides Netaji would be available. I was in a fix and was very reluctant to go to Netaji. Eventually, I did go to the place where Netaji was staying in Saigon at the Branch office of I.I.L. and told him about the matter. I do not remember whether Col. Tada met me at the aerodrome or at the residence of Netaji. At the residence of Netaji, I saw Ayer, Chatterji, Hasan, Habib and Gulzara Singh. I do not remember accurately but Mr. Debnath Das and Col. Prasad were also there. Netaji, who

△ who told me that only one seat beside him would be available, ©

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me that only one seat besides him would be available in the plane, was of the opinion that it would be useless for him to go unless he was accompanied by all the other officers and he insisted that seats should be made available for the whole of his party. Netaji wished to take the whole of his party with him but when I told him that it was impossible at that moment as only two seats were available. This discussion went on for a long time, as Netaji was insistent upon taking the whole of his party with him. Eventually, on the persuasion of Mr. Ayer and General Chatterjee, Netaji asked me to wait for his decision which would be given to me after 10 minutes. I waited there for 10 minutes when Netaji came and told me in a very disgusted mood that he would avail of the two seats that were being offered to him but ^{on the} ~~he desired~~ that the rest of his party should follow him the next day.

Condition that

⁹ We requested Netaji to avail himself of the two seats offered and promised him that we would make arrangements for carrying the other officers the next day as the circumstances permitted. After this Netaji left for the aerodrome.

I remember Netaji told me at

Saigon in his house that he would like to go to Russia via Dairen. After reaching Dairen, he would try and contact the Government in Tokyo by flying direct from Dairen to Tokyo. If the circumstances did not permit this, then he would proceed direct to Russia from Dairen. Netaji was to fly to Dairen via Taihoku (Formosa).

We arrived at the aerodrome at about 5 P.M. The plane had been delayed for over three hours. All the passengers were sitting inside the plane. The whole of Netaji's party, Mr. Hachiya, Staff Officer, Col. Tada, my Assistant, a Major, my Adjutant, 3 or 4 military officers and some members of the Indian Independence League went to the aerodrome to see off Netaji. The two seats that were offered in the plane were availed of by Netaji and Col. Habibur Rehman. On arrival at the aerodrome, Netaji's baggage was unloaded from his car. ^{were told by the chief pilot} We found that the baggage was too heavy and could not be put on the plane. Consequently about one-half or one-third was left behind. I told Netaji to take as little baggage as possible as the plane was already heavily overloaded. I told him that since General Shidei was accompanying him, he would make all the arrangements for his requirements on arrival at the

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destination. I requested Netaji to leave behind as much baggage as possible. Netaji's baggage was sorted out at the Saigon aerodrome and only the bare necessities were taken with him but even then it was quite a lot. Just at that moment, the propellers of the plane started. At the aerodrome Netaji had to wait for about 30 minutes for Mr. Nigeshi and ~~two~~ two other I.N.A. officers who were bringing two leather suit cases ^{each of} which were about 30" long, about 8" high and about 16" wide. In order to get these boxes on board, the propellers of the engine were stopped again. I have no idea what these cases contained. Earlier just after Netaji had arrived, Major Hasan told me that the two boxes which contained presents to Netaji from the 3 lakh Indians in East Asia, had not arrived at the aerodrome. He, therefore, requested me to detain the plane for about half an hour. The plane was accordingly detained and the engines ~~were~~ stopped. When these two boxes arrived at the aerodrome, we loaded them in the plane. The propellers of the plane started. While loading these boxes, I found that although they looked small in size but they were quite heavy. I cannot say exactly what the weight was of these boxes. I learnt from Hasan ^{that} ~~the~~ ^{while}

Remember

that these boxes contained gold and jewellery. I do not remember accurately the number of packages that Netaji took with him but I think they were four or five. Netaji's clothings were contained in leather suit cases which had been loaded on the plane previously.

Before emplaning, Netaji shook hands with all of us. At the last minute, he turned to me and shook hands with me again. Netaji did not say anything to me while saying Good Bye but I wished him a happy journey and safe arrival at the destination. The plane took off quite normally. It was a brand new plane. Besides Netaji and Col. Habibur Rehman, there were six or seven other Japanese officers on the plane but I do not know their names except General Shidei. It was not the same plane which had carried Netaji from Bangkok to Saigon. It was a bigger and new bomber. I knew General Shidei well. Previously he was the Chief of Staff with General Kimura, Commander-in-Chief of Burma Army. At that time, he was proceeding to Manchuria to take up his new appointment as Vice Chief of the Staff, Kwantung Army. He was proceeding to Dairen via Taihoku. Although the Emperor had broadcast on 15th calling upon all the Armies to cease fighting, the armies in Manchuria were

*Success in his mission
in securing India's freedom*

resisting the Russian advance and fighting was still in progress there. General Shidei was being sent to Manchuria to convey Emperor's orders to the Kwantung Army.

It was expected that all the passengers on board, would get off the plane at Dairen and then later if the circumstances were favourable, Netaji would undertake the journey to Tokyo and return to Dairen. In case the circumstances for his going to Tokyo were not favourable, he would enter Manchuria independently and try and contact the Russian forces there.

After Netaji's plane took off ~~from Saigon~~, I spent that night in Saigon. On the following day, i.e. 18th August 1945, while I was still at Saigon, I received a telegram from the headquarters of the Southern Army, Dalat, in the late~~x~~ afternoon or early ~~in the evening~~. The telegram contained the news that the plane carrying Netaji, the leader of the Indian Independence Movement, had crashed at Taihoku aerodrome and that Netaji was very seriously injured and that he had been taken to the hospital. As soon as I received the telegram, I sent a telegram to the Army H.Q. in Taihoku expressing my grief at the accident and hoping that Netaji would recover soon.

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I communicated this information to the Branch of the Hikari Kikan at Bangkok. A few hours ~~la~~ after the first telegram, I received another telegram from the Southern Army telling me that Netaji had expired in the hospital, at about 9 P.M. I communicated this information to my headquarters at Bangkok. I did not communicate this to any body else as I thought that it must been communicated to them separately. I also sent a telegram of condolence to the headquarters of the Formosan Army. I cannot remember if I sent any message to the Formosan Army regarding taking of photographs, etc of Netaji's body as a proof of his death but I know that the Formosan Army wished to cremate him at Taihoky. I did not communicate with the Imperial General Headquarters at Tokyo because I knew that the Formosan Army and the Southern Army would be communicating direct with the Imperial General Headquarters on this subject. The same day from Saigon I sent a telegram to the Imperial General Headquarters in Tokyo to ensure that Netaji's ashes and other belongings ^{are treated} ~~should be~~ preserved carefully. I cannot remember exactly whether I left Saigon for Bangkok on 19th or 20th

With Care during the journey

August

but it was on one of these days.

At Saigon I learnt that General Shidei had been killed in the plane crash.

At that time, I did not know what had happened of Col. Habibur Rehman but later I learnt that he had been badly burnt. I do not remember if I received any official information about the accident. I learnt later that the plane took off and soon after there was engine trouble and it crashed.

I wished to go to Taihoku where the plane crash had taken place but at that time there was a great difficulty in securing a passage to the place by plane. A few days after Netaji's departure, the rest of the party of Netaji, including Mr. Ayer and General Chatterjee, were moved to Hanoi by plane. I cannot say what happened to that party later on. They might have entered China.

Then I left for ^{BANKOK} ~~Saigon~~ ^{there} and reached ^{there} the same day. On reaching there I talked with General Bhonsle. I kept in constant touch with him until September, the 17th, when I was arrested and sent to Jail in Bangkok. A few days later I was flown from Bangkok via Taipangto Singapore. In Singapore I was lodged in the Outram Jail. On arrival of L. Mountbatten, I was given orders that I was not to talk to

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the first wife
has been added
to the copies

AOKI

Sub-officer Aoyagi - Pilot.

Major Takizawa - Engineer.

General Shidei.

Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose,

Col. Habibur Rehman, Mr. Bose's Adjutant.

Lt. Col. Sakai,

Lt. Col. Nonogaki,

Sergeant Okashita.

I remember these names because it was my duty to register the names of all incoming and outgoing passengers.

The head of the group in every flight had to give me particulars of all the men going on a particular plane.

I remember having met Mr. Bose clearly in that tent.

He was eating a banana at that time. Mr. Bose was a tall and robust looking man. He was dressed in the uniform of Indian National Army. He was wearing top boots and, if I remember rightly, he was wearing breeches. I do not remember whether it was cotton or woollen.

Question by the Chairman: Was Mr. Bose wearing a ring?

Answer: I did not notice at that time whether he was wearing a ring or not, but later my men told me that he was wearing a gold ring. He was wearing a wrist watch but I do not remember whether it was round or rectangular. Most probably, he was wearing what looked like sun-glasses.

General Shidei told me that he was accompanied by Mr. Chandra Bose and that he would like to fly immediately to Japan. It was after this talk that I learnt that that gentleman was Mr. Chandra Bose. General Shidei and others rested in the tent for about an hour and 20 minutes. At about 1-20 P.M. Major Takizawa and Pilot Aoyagi^{KI} got into the plane and tested it. I

was standing just in front of the plane. When they started the engines, I found that one of them was defective. I raised my hand to indicate to him (Major Takizawa) that the engine on the left side was defective. On my signal indicating that the engine was defective, Major Takizawa leaned out of the plane to listen to me. I told him that the left engine was defective and should be put right. Major Takizawa slowed down the engine and told me that it was a brand new engine which had been replaced at Saigon. After slowing down the engine, he adjusted it for about 5 minutes. The engine was ~~checked~~ adjusted twice by Major Takizawa. After being adjusted, I satisfied myself that the condition of the engine was all right. Major Takizawa also agreed with me that there was then nothing wrong with the engine. Both the engines were further slowed down to enable all the passengers to get on board. From the order in which the passengers entered the plane, I could make out that the most comfortable seats were to be occupied by General Shidei, Mr. Bose and his Adjustant. I did not look inside the plane. After every body had taken seat in the plane, the plane taxied to one end of the runway marked C in sketch I. Having reached point C, the engines of the plane were speeded up to the maximum speed and then slowed down. This was the normal procedure which all Japanese planes followed to test the fitness of engines. Having satisfied myself that the engineer's were correct, the plane was speeded up and allowed to run down the runway. The length of the runway was 890 meters. In the case of heavy bombers, normally the tail gets lifted half the way down the runway marked D in the sketch I.

(207)

582/DS(EA)/90

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

....

Mr. S. Suzuki, Counsellor(Pol) in the Japanese Embassy telephoned me this evening and informed me that during the visit of Prime Minister Kaifu, F.S. had discussed with Deputy Cabinet Minister Owada, the question of the return of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose from the Renkoji temple in Tokyo, to India.

2. According to Mr. Suzuki, F.S. had also mentioned to Dy Cabinet Minister Owada that a case was pending in this connection in the Jaipur High Court. Mr. Suzuki, therefore, asked for any information/details that we would be having in the matter.

3. JS is aware that a case had been filed in the Jaipur High Court by Shri. Lal Sharma in 1984 (F/A). We understand that Shri Sharma has since expired. A notice had also been sent to MOS(EA) by Shri G.L. Pareek, Advocate for the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation, Jaipur (F/A). There is also another communication from Shri D.K. Jain, President, All India Aard Hind Sangh addressed to MOS(EA) (F/A) in brief, both letters dispute the information that Netaji died in a plane crash in Taiwan in 1945 and are against the ashes at present kept at Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, being brought back to India. This is also the substance of the article which appeared in Rajasthan Patrika Sunday Magazine, Jaipur dated 17th May, 1987 (F/D)

8354/EAD/91
3/10

If JS(EA) approves we may send copies of the writ (F/A), Letters at Flag 'B' and 'C' and Newspaper article at F/b, to ^{the} Japanese Embassy.

[Signature]

(Smt. PRIMROSE R. SHARMA)
DS(EA)
3/5/90

2090/JS(EA)/90
4/5/90

~~JS(EA)~~

FS may like to see. I feel there is no harm in giving the Japanese the enclosed material informally

Have we, sure may 20, been reviewed. If not, may be filed.

DSU(EA) FS

by 4/5

(208)

Yes. Counsellor Leguina met me on
one or two occasions. The Embassy
in fact has also sent a
notice to the Embassy.

For info.

NR

2/7/21

3222-JS(EA)BL
3/7

1154-JS(EA)BL
3/7

582-JS(EA)BL
3/7

JS(EA)

McSpk NR
2019

Discussed JS(EA)

Re: The NC

2AD

8354-EA2/31
3/90

Ministry of External Affairs,
NGO Section

(209)

Sy No 5143/NGO/90

FR

There are perhaps pps on
this in NGO.

On file

sd/-
18/6
DS(FSO)

Reference above.

Two files, Nos 25/13/NGO-52 and
25/14/NGO-52 are placed below on the
subjects pertaining to enquiry into the
death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
and Miscellaneous correspondence on this
whereabouts.

DS(FSO) would like to see.

Md/min
19/6

Q
19/6/90

✓ DS(FSO)

DS(FAS) wished
to see in connection
with a parliament question.

JS(FAS)
DS(FAS)

July 1/9

Thank you.

Returned to N60

By order
27/6

N60

shgpl

17367/18/26
12/6

5208-DS(EN)/00
10/6/90

(210)

NGO SECTION

5143 / 5143
Dr. No. / NGO/90
Date

Reference notes on pre-page.

NGO files, Nos 25/13/NGO-52
and 25/14/NGO-52 have been
removed. Kindly confirm that
the 'FR' (Dr No. 5143/NGO/90) was
retained by EA Division.

5208 JS(EA) 90

SP
11/9/90

Admin
11/9

✓ JS(EA)

FR will be in Parliament
Re - Pl check and confirm.

bjambha

12/9

JS(EA)

(211)

विदेश मंत्रा
Minister of External Affairs

I had asked for a detailed
note re: Neta Jee Subhash
Chandra Jee Bose's ashes. This is
to remind.

58.6/FS/40-11/9
8/9/90

Recd today.

8/9

52/12-25(40)/60
11/9

F.S.

Lat.
6/9

Discussed with FS. PPs
on this are in EA Divn.
Grateful for a note
on the subject.

July 10/9

JS (EA)

P. put up updated
note

of 11/9

JS (EA)

Ministry of External Affairs

(East Asia Division)

Ref. FR. We do have files relating to this subject in the Division. You could also ask for additional material from our Embassy in Tokyo.

2. As the material is required for preparing a note for the CCPA, the material may be put in the form of MEA note as quickly as possible.

Shyam Saran

(Shyam Saran)
Joint Secretary (EA)
9/10/1990

/DIR(JKM)

Reference JS(EA)'s note above.

A detailed note on the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is submitted please (F/X).

JS(EA) may also like to endorse a copy to EAM with reference to his dated 6/9/90 on prepage. A 2 pages note for MHA (F/Y) along with covering letter (F/Z) is also submitted please.

Primrose R. Sharma
(PRIMROSE R. SHARMA)
DIRECTOR (JKM)
19/10/90

JS(EA)

F.S. in on tour. Note regarding Subhash Chandra Bose that EAM had asked for is submitted for his perusal.

Shyam Saran 23/x

E.A.M.

NOS may also kindly see.

P.S. to/NOS. *Vp* 25/x
JS(EA)

Shyam Saran
23/x

5566-JS (S.M.) No

794/Dir(JKM)/90

F4017/EAM/90
23/10

[note

1072/MOS/90
24/X

(2/37)

Has EAM seen?

SS 26/x

PS ~~6/EAM~~

May pl. see.

Q.
30/x.

Due to 1/10/60
5/11/60

EAM.

The detailed note may be referred
to CCPA for instructions.

drf.
4/x1

~~F.S.~~

M. Durbey.
5/x1.

JS/EAM

CCPA note is being prepared by Ministry of Home
Affairs for which we had sent a note. Pl. clarify.

SS 6/x1

Dir (EAM)

214

- 4 -

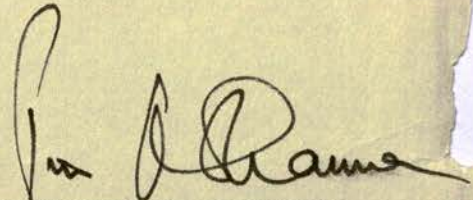
F.R. - Dy. No. 8807/EAD/90

Reference FS' notings on the ~~in~~ regarding the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. A detailed note had been prepared for EAM(F/X). FS was on tour when the note was put up.

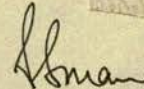
3. We had also separately sent a note/ to the MHA who we understand are preparing a detailed note on the question of the ashes for the CCPA. A copy was also endorsed to PMO who had separately enquired of the matter.

Submitted please.


(PRIMROSE R. SHARMA)
DIRECTOR(JKM)
13-11-90

JS(EA)

F.S. may kindly see. The shorter note prepared by us for MHA should be sufficient for briefing PM.



14/11

F.S.

971/Dia(JKM)/90
13/X1

L F/Y

5586 14/11/90

12/13/FS/90
15/11

-5- (2153)

1363-JS(EA)/91
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

In November, 1988, Prof. Samar Guha had written a letter to President Gorbachev drawing attention to certain reports indicating that Subhash Chandra Bose had proceeded to the Soviet Union a week after he allegedly died in an air crash in Taipei (in Taiwan).

2. The matter has been informally taken up with the Soviets who have agreed to pursue the enquiries in this regard. However, we have not yet received any response from them.

3. The matter has not, however, been taken up with Governments of the other countries indicated by Prof. Samar Guha. Although we have no notings in this regard on this file, it appears that we wanted to wait until we got some information from the Soviets before deciding whether to take up the matter with the other Governments.

4. A draft reply from DM to Prof. Guha is submitted for approval.

Shyam Saran
(Shyam Saran)
Joint Secretary (EA)
25.3.1991.

PS to DM

For letter has ^{been} issued
26/3/91

JS (EA)

Sharma 27/3

Dr (EA) May I see pps. pl.

NRao
27/3

MS (EA) The papers are with Mr. (JKM) available. kindly route papers in the action through for.

achandran
1/4

4 adw
So (2/4)

A7

A few hours before Col. Habib ^{and} I left Tokyo, Col. Habib weighed the valuables, wrote a note and left them both with Murti. The weight was about 12 kilograms including the weight of the containers, i.e. equal to about 26 lbs, and he had written there that Murti should hand over the valuables to any organisation that would eventually take charge of the INA ^{in India} affairs. Himself, myself, Murti and, I believe, ^{also,} Murti's brother, were there. (By containers I mean wrappings of paper which must be of negligible weight).

I had been cautioned by the Japanese Foreign Office on November 7th that I was wanted by Mountbatten's Headquarters in India. Later on, I was told that I should be ready to fly on the 12th. ~~The~~ ^{An} American Captain visited me in my quarters on the 12th, ^{and} examined me because I was ill at that time and said that I should be fit to fly by the 16th, but actually under the escort of an American, Captain Col. Habib and I were put aboard an American aircraft at Tokyo and we took off on the morning of the 19th for Delhi where we reached on November 22nd.

I gave evidence on the 11th December 1945 as a defence witness in the Court Martial of Major General Shah Nawaz Khan, Col. P.K. Sehgal, and Col. G.S. Dhillon. I left Delhi five days later for S. India, rested there for a few weeks and returned to Delhi in the

first week of April 1946, attended a meeting of the INA Enquiry and Relief Committee and immediately after that started working in Delhi at the office of the A.I. I.N.A. Enquiry and Relief Committee as Joint Hon'y Secretary with Col. Sehgal. I returned to South India in June 1946 and went back to Bombay in July 1946 having taken on an assignment as the Special Correspondent in Bombay of the Hindustan Times, Delhi. I joined the Govt. of Bombay as Director of Publicity in September 1946 and continued to work in that capacity till 1951. Towards the end of May 1951, I paid a ~~number of~~ ^{brief} visits to Japan. On the eve of my leaving for Japan, I heard from Chief Secy. to Govt. of Bombay that the Secretary, External Affairs Ministry (Shri B.N. Chakaravarty) would like me to make enquiries about Netaji's ashes in Tokyo and about the valuables he carried with him on his last flight. I reached Tokyo on May 24, 1951. The first thing I did the next day was to go to Renkoji Temple to make sure that Netaji's ashes were there in tact as I had left them in 1945. I undertook the journey to Tokyo primarily because I felt a moral responsibility for the safety of the ashes as I had received them personally at the hands of the Japanese in August 1945. I had been a witness of Col. Habib's handing the valuables to Murti in November 1945 and since then Habib had gone over to Pakistan and the INA in India had absolutely no contact with him. (Murty financed the flight). During my stay in

Jap~~m~~ I tried to meet as many Japanese nationals as I could with a view to checking up thoroughly the truth of the story of Netaji's plane crash. In Tokyo I contacted Mr. Fukuoka whom I had last seen at the Saigon airport on the morning of August 20, 1945. I recalled to Mr. Fukuoka's mind his very words of that morning hinting that something had gone wrong with Netaji's programme and asked him exactly what all he knew at that moment. He told me that he knew at that time from certain messages picked up by ~~the~~ Count Terauchi's command in Indo-China that Netaji's plane had crashed in Taihoku and that Netaji had been seriously injured, but he was not aware that Netaji had succumbed to his injuries. He heard about Netaji's death only some time after my plane took off. He was convinced of the truth of the story even at that time because he had also heard it from different Japanese military officers stationed at that time in Saigon. I requested Mr. Fukuoka to contact Col. Tada, the officer who accompanied ^d me from Saigon to Tokyo in August 1945 and asked him to come down to Tokyo to meet me without fail. He did so and I met Col. Tada in Tokyo on June 5, 1951. I asked Col. Tada to tell me all he knew about Netaji's flight from Saigon and asked him ~~why~~ why he failed to take me to Taihoku in spite of the fact that he promised to do so. His explanation was that it was past 10 P.M. when our plane reached Taichu and it was considered too risky to proceed at that hour to Taihoku and land there as the aerodrome was surrounded

by hillocks. They did not wish to touch Taihoku the next day because August 21 was the last day given by the Allies for the Japanese to ground all the planes in Japan or elsewhere. If Netaji had been alive at that time in Taihoku they might perhaps have taken the serious risk of flying to Taihoku instead of flying direct from Taichu to Japan. For the rest he repeated the story of six years before in all essential details and told me that it was no use anybody doubting the truth of the report of the plane crash in Taihoku and Netaji's fatal injuries. ~~There were no survivors in Tokyo~~
 22nd.

I asked him to provide me with further authentic proof of the tragic events. He mentioned the names of two Japanese officers, Col. Nonogaki of the Japanese Air Force and Captain Arai of the Japanese Army as the only two Japanese survivors of the air crash who could be contacted in Tokyo itself. I pressed him to put me in touch with those two officers immediately. He contacted Col. Nonogaki whom I met for the first time in Tokyo on the evening of June 5, 1951. ~~He~~ ¹⁾ heard from Col. Nonogaki a graphic description of the crash. He drew sketches for me ²⁾ of the route chalked out for the plane on its flight from Saigon to Tokyo via Dairen (Manchuria), ³⁾ to Taihoku airport and the spot where the crash took place, ⁴⁾ the seating arrangements inside the plane when it took off from Taihoku, and the list of passengers by the plane. I tender to the Committee the original

of Col. Nonogaki's sketches and the list in his own handwriting and would like these to be returned to me when done with. Col. Nonogaki's address is one of these four papers.

Col. Tada had told me earlier that according to Count Terauchi, to help Netaji to the best of ability, they were to drop Netaji and General Shidei at Dairen (Manchuria) and proceed to Japan. The intention was that Genl. Shidei would look after Netaji in Dairen as long as he remained there. Then Netaji would disappear with a view to crossing over to Russian-held territory and thereafter the Japanese would announce to the world that Netaji had disappeared. Col. Nonogaki confirmed Col. Habib's version ^{of} six years ago and Habib's report that General Shidei was killed on the spot as he was sitting nearest to the pilot. Through the good offices of Col. Nonogaki I contacted Captain Arai who gave me a ^{brief} ~~xxxxxxx~~ eye-witness account of the crash and confirmed Netaji's death in the Hospital at 9 P.M. on August 18, 1945. After that I made sure that the valuables that Col. Habib had left with Murti were intact. During my stay in Tokyo I called on the Chief of the Indian Liaison Mission in Tokyo, Shri Chettur and in the course of my talks with him, suggested that the Mission could take over Netaji's ashes and the

valuables for safe custody pending any decision as to what should be done with them in due course. Shri Chettur expressed his inability to do so in the absence of any instructions from Delhi. Then I requested him to cable Delhi and ask for instructions. He said he was doing so but he had not received any reply from Delhi till I left Japan on June 11th. Before leaving Tokyo, I paid another visit to the Temple and paid my respects to Netaji's ashes, and had a photograph taken on that occasion. I tender to the Committee a copy of the photograph. The priest who was in charge of the Temple in 1945 was still there when I visited the Temple in 1951. I do not know the name of the priest but in a group photo which I tender to the Committee, he is on the extreme right.

After my return to India I made a brief report to Chief Secy. to Govt. of Bombay and informed him about the safe custody of Netaji's ashes, of my enquiry regarding the plane crash and of the safe custody of the valuables carried by Netaji. This was at the end of June. I met Shri Sri Prakasa, then Minister for Commerce, ^{Government of India,} and now Governor of Madras, in Delhi in September 1951 and informed him

in his capacity of Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee that had been set up by the INA Enquiry and Relief Committee at its meeting held on 14th April 1951. In a brief communication to Prime Minister, Shri Sri Prakasa informed him about the ashes and the valuables and conveyed my suggestion that the Indian Liaison Mission in Tokyo may take charge of both. I sought an interview with P.M. on September 15, 1951 and reported to him about Netaji's ashes and the valuables and personally made the suggestion that our Mission in Tokyo may kindly be instructed to take charge of both. In my presence, the P.M. kindly instructed the Commonwealth Secy, Shri Dutt, to cable our Mission in Tokyo to take charge of the valuables.

Having spoken personally to P.M. about Netaji's ashes and the valuables, I had a feeling of relief as far as my own personal, direct or indirect, responsibility was concerned. I showed him certain documents and photographs in connection with my enquiry about Netaji's last plane journey. He asked me to give him the fullest possible report on Netaji's plane crash which I did in a document, dated 24-9-1951.

222

Evidence of

STATEMENT BY COL. PRITAM SINGH.
on 10.4.1956.

I was acting Captain in the British Indian Army when we surrendered to the Japanese. In March 1941, I went to Malaya with Kapurthala unit. My rank was at that time of Lieutenant. I took part in the fighting in Singapore against the Japanese. I surrendered in Singapore near Buktimah road on the 15th February, 1942. I joined first I.N.A. under General Mohan Singh. I was present in Singapore ~~xxxx~~ on the day when Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose arrived in Singapore. I was present at the aerodrome, among other officers, to receive him. At the time of arrival of Netaji, I was Major in the I.N.A. I was second in command of Azad Guerilla Brigade. Then later on I was transferred to No. 1 ~~xxxxxx~~ DIV. Headquarters as G. 2. I held staff appointments in No.1 Headquarters almost to the date of our surrender in Bangkok. I moved with the Headquarters of No. 1 Division from Singapore to the main land of Malaya, and later to Burma via Ban^{rw}pong. Under No. 1 division, we took part in Imphal operations. On arrival at the front - opposite Pal~~al~~ - I took command of the fighting forces of the Gandhi Brigade that reached the front by that time. Towards the end of April, 1944, my detachment was ordered to ~~take~~ attack Pal~~al~~. We advanced approximately 50 miles inside ~~the~~ ^{enemy lines,} and came into contact with the 20th Indian Division under command of General Gracey. There was a severe fighting in that action and as a result of which two British officers were killed and a number of Gorkha troops surrendered. ~~xxxxxx~~ For bravery in this operation, I was decorated with the Sardar-e-Jung by Netaji. With the onset of Monsoon we started withdrawing, our supply were cut off by enemy air action. Eventually we concentrated in Mandalay area. After Mandalay we withdrew to ~~Pyin~~ ^{Pyin} area. In the beginning of 1945, we began concentrating at ~~Pyin~~ ^{Pyin} where we stayed for 2 or 3 months re-organising ourselves. In February, 1945, Netaji came to ~~Pyin~~ ^{Pyin} area and he wanted to take part in the fighting in person. Eventually we prevailed upon him to return to Rangoon. We felt much relieved by this. After about 2 months, we started preparing for continuing the Guerilla

warfare and disperse our ration and ammunition in various area. About the middle of April, our position in the front took the turn for the worst. There was a general withdrawl all along the front and we had to withdraw with the other Japanese forces. From ~~Pyma~~^{Pyma} we withdrew east-wards across the River Sitang, ~~about~~^{about} moving about 10 miles on Tongoo-Mawchi road. There was a Conference with the Japanese General there and it was decided that the Japanese main troops ~~would~~ withdraw on the Tongoo-Mawchi road and we were to withdraw through the Karen hills towards Moulmei. We withdrew to Papun through difficult country after meeting slight resistance. By the end of June, we retired to Maulmei, where we learnt that Netaji and party had moved to Bangkok. I had a sum of ~~one~~^{one} lakh of rupees which I handed over to the Base Commander. Then we arrived in Bangkok after 4 or 5 days from Moulmei. On arrival at Bangkok, I explained the Military situation regarding No. 1 ~~ex~~-regiment to Netaji who was very pleased to learn that ~~ex~~-regiment had managed to come through. In his talk with me, Netaji explained the general war situation in the world. After explaining, Netaji came to the conclusion that sooner or later his allies namely, the Japanese and the Germans would have to surrender. Netaji was as ~~xx~~ usualⁱⁿ optimistic mood. At that time I was alone with him. Netaji was of the view that even if his allies surrendered, the war of Indian liberation would go on, might be in a different form. He made arrangements for the reception of ~~ex~~-regiment which was still on its way to Bangkok. ~~Ex~~-regiment arrived in Bangkok about three weeks later under the command of Col. Thakar Singh. In the meantime, Netaji was busy making arrangements for supplying proper clothing and rations to his troops. I remain somewhere near Bangkok. On or about 18th of July, Netaji left for Singapore. I did not accompany him. In the beginning of August, I was transferred to Singapore as Brigade Commander.

(224)

I ~~xxxxxxxx~~ went by plane from Bangkok to Singapore. This was early in August. ~~ixxxxxxxxxxSingapore~~ When I arrived ~~at~~ Singapore, I learnt that Netaji was on tour of inspection somewhere in the main land of Malaya. He returned back to Singapore on about the 10th August, 1945. ~~This~~ I learnt that Netaji's main object was to organise a united front of Indians, Malayans, and Chinese so that they could fight for their independence. On the 12th or 13th August, official news was ^{received} that the Japanese had surrendered. This was just after the atom bombing of Hiroshima. Netaji, ~~xxx~~ on the 13th or 14th August, invited to Dinner a number of senior officers including myself. Others present were - Col. Bishen Singh and members of Rani of Jhansi regiment. Other senior officers at that time in Singapore were: Col. ^{Kabir} ~~Nabib~~ ~~Ul~~ Rahman, General Kiani, Col. Stracey, Col. Kasliwal. At about mid-night when everybody had gone, Netaji asked me to stay on. He took me to his room and after ~~in~~ speaking about the situation in general, he asked my opinion as to what we should do next. My suggestion was that we should continue the struggle somehow or the other. I did not see any point in being arrested and put in jail like thousands of others in India. He told me that he had contacted Russia through the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Shigemitsu. Although Netaji did not divulge the plan to me, ~~but~~ I got the impression that it was his wish that he and some of his party should move to Russian territory and operate from there. Netaji said that the ideology of the Russians and Anglo-American were so different that sooner or later, they would come to a clash. He assessed that this would ~~take~~ happen in about 10 years time and that would be an opportune moment for ~~hi~~ us to go into action again. He was of the view that the clash was likely to be hastened if Churchill returned to power. I left him after this interview. Next day, he sent for me again and told me to get myself in readiness to move to an unknown destination the next day. I returned to my house and started packing my kits. On the morning of the 16th August, we reached the aerodrome at Singapore. The plane in which we were to travel was a bomber. The

under-mentioned officers were in the plane ~~xxxx~~ :-
Netaji, Col, ^{Habib-ul-Rahman} ~~Habib-ul-Rahman~~, Mr. Ayyar and myself.
I think there was some representative of the Hikari
Kikan also. We were seen off at the Singapore
aerodrome by General Kiani. The plane took off
at 7 a.m. and we arrived at Bangkok just about
mid-day. On arrival at Bangkok aerodrome we
were met by the transport that was waiting for us.
We drove to Netaji's bangalow in Bangkok. Soon
after his arrival at his residence, ~~xx~~ Netaji held
a conference of senior officers. I think Col.
Thakar Singh, Col. Gulzara Singh, Major Abid Hasan
and myself ^{and myself} ~~and myself~~ and DevNath Das ^{distinctly} ~~were~~ present. I remember discreetly
that during the course of his talk, Netaji told us
that although we had lost the war, ~~but~~ we had
succeeded in creating an awakening among the soldiers
of the Indian Army for the freedom of our country
which the Congress had so far failed to achieve.
He considered this to be of ~~gx~~ very great significance
and was confident that the pace of the freedom struggle
would be hastened and that India would be free before
long. He was determined to continue the war for
India's independence. He praised the sacrifices
made by the soldiers of the Azad Hing Fauj in the
battle for freedom in Burma and he further stressed
upon every officer present the desirability of
continuing the struggle even at the cost of much
sufferings and torture. In the morning of the
17th August, we went to the aerodrome in two cars.
At Bangkok the party that arrived from Singapore with
Netaji was joined by Major Abid Hasan, Shri Dev Nath
Das, ~~Mr. Ayyar, Col. Habib Ul Rahman,~~ Col. Gulzara
Singh, ~~myself~~, General Isoda and Mr. Hachia. We left
Bangkok at about 7 a.m. in two planes and arrived at
Saigon after an hour or so. At the Saigon aerodrome,
I learnt that the Japanese were of the opinion that it would
be difficult to conceal such a big party. The
inference I drew from this was that the Japanese
wished to take Netaji alone to some unknown destination.
But Netaji was of the opinion that it was not for the
purpose of going into hiding that he was going to some
unknown destination. His primary object in doing so
was to continue the struggle for India's freedom
for which it was essential that he should be accompanied
by a number of his officers. Netaji discussed all these

points with the two Japanese officers, viz. General Isoda and Mr. Hachia who had accompanied us from Bangkok. After consultations with Netaji at the aerodrome, the two Japanese Officers left by plane for the Headquarters of Field Marshal ~~Cowan~~ Trauchi at ^a ~~Dalat~~. They were accompanied by some other Japanese officers as well. I saw their plane taking off. Their object in going to Dalat was to have consultations with the Field Marshal, who was ^{the} Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in South East Asia. After finishing our breakfast at the aerodrome we drove in two cars to Saigon. We were accommodated in two bungalows. I do not remember correctly the distance from the ~~the~~ aerodrome to ~~the bungalows~~ these bungalows but I think it was approximately 4 miles. Col, Gulzara Singh, one more officer, and myself were ~~sitting~~ staying in one bungalow and the rest of ~~the~~ the party in the other bungalow, with Netaji. The bungalows were adjacent to each other. On reaching there, we relaxed. After an hour or so, we were sent for in a hurry by Netaji. We were asked to come in whatever dress we were in. On arrival at Netaji's bungalow, I saw the two Japanese Liaison Officers, General Isoda and Mr. Hachia, seated in one corner. Netaji was talking to the other members of the party at some distance from the Japanese. Netaji told us that the Japanese had informed him that they would like to take him away alone. We requested Netaji to request the Japanese Officers to take all of us ~~with~~ together, failing which, at least one of us should accompany Netaji. Netaji had further consultations with the Japanese and insisted on at least one more seat being made available in the plane. They eventually agreed to this. Netaji then asked all of us as to who should be the person to accompany him. All of us suggested the name of Col, ^{Rabib} ~~Habib~~ ^{Ul} Rahman. We suggested his name to accompany Netaji because he was the most senior staff officer of Netaji, and was in personal touch with Netaji as the Deputy Chief of Staff for some time. In the meantime, one Japanese Major arrived in ^{the} ~~Bangal~~ bungalow and told us that the plane was about to leave and that we should hurry up. Netaji told all of us to carry our kits to the aerodrome in case some more seats were made available at the last minute. The Japanese ^{was} ~~streed~~ ^{stressed} on the fact that since the allies had restricted the flying of their planes after surrender, it might not be possible in

future to fly their planes and because of this they insisted that Netaji should utilize the two seats that were made available. ~~in~~ All of us drove to the aerodrome in a haste, in two cars. Netaji discarded some of his kits in bungalow in Saigon and took only one suit-case and I think three boxes² containing gold valuables and documents. I think the boxes containing the valuables were wooden and about 24" long, 16" wide and 10" high in size. One car arrived at the aerodrome a little later than the other car. On arrival at the aerodrome, Netaji again asked the Japanese to provide one more seat ~~in~~ in the plane but the answer was in the negative. The Japanese Liaison Officers assured Netaji that they would do their utmost to secure transport for the rest of the party to join Netaji later on. But my own impression ~~was~~ that the Japanese did not wish to provide transport for the whole party. I did not notice any other plane at the aerodrome at that time. Some Japanese officers including one General, besides, General Isoda, and Mr. Hachia, were there. After a brief talk ~~with them~~ telling us that ~~it~~ he had asked the Japanese to make the transport available for the rest of the party, he boarded the plane. Before boarding the plane, he bid farewell to us by embracing with every one of us in turn. Netaji entered the plane through the door on the left side of the plane. The Japanese declined to accept the boxes ^{in the plane} as they stated that the plane was already ^{overloaded}, but Mr. Dev Nath Das, myself put the box inside. One Japanese General also boarded the plane. I did not know how many other Japanese officers ~~boarded~~ did. Netaji was wearing Khakhi drill uniform. I am ^{not} sure but I think he was wearing his top boots. The plane left at about 5 p.m. (Japanese time). The take off was quite normal. We had no idea where this plane was going to. After that all of us returned to our bungalow in Saigon. Some Japanese Liaison Officers later on told us that they were attempting to arrange transport for us but we did not get the transport up to the 20th August. On the 20th morning, all the party, except Mr. Ayyar, were asked to get ready to board the plane for an unknown destination. They were providing Mr. Ayyar a seat in another plane. We were to follow Netaji. We left Saigon at about 10 a.m. and landed ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ to our surprise.

% By Netaji with them and later

we landed at Hanoi in the afternoon. The surprise was that after reaching Hanoi we did not find Netaji there as we were supposed to follow Netaji. We were taken to Hanoi ~~town~~ where we met our Government's representative Mr. A.M. Sahay. All of us went to the residence of Mr. Sahay. General Chatterjee, Mr. Thivy and the Private Secretary to Genl. Chatterjee also reached Hanoi.

At night, we heard the broadcast from Tokyo Radio ~~that~~ a brief announcement that the plane carrying Netaji had crashed at Taihoku, Formosa, and that as a result Netaji had died. We did not take this news seriously ~~as~~ as we did not believe it to be true. ^{Two or three} 2 or 3 days later, we heard from Mr. Dev Nath Das that a Japanese Officer from F.M. Trauchi's Headquarters had called and told him that we should not believe the report about the crash of plane and he also said that we should continue our activities as if nothing had happened to Netaji.

At Hanoi our plans were to reach Manchuria through China by land route. We were anxious to reach Manchuria in view of Netaji's previous talk with us regarding going to Russia and we expected that we would probably find him somewhere there. We were going to Manchuria because it was held by the Japanese and the Russians were advancing into it. We did not expect Netaji to go to Japan as it would be occupied by the Anglo-Americans. Mr. Dev Nath ~~and~~ Das and myself were very keen to follow this plan but were dissuaded by General Chatterjee. We continued to live at Hanoi.

2 or 3 ~~xxxxx~~ days later, Col. Gulzara Singh said that it had been heard over the radio, American broadcast, that Netaji's plane had been seen over China. We stayed in Hanoi for 4 months. As ~~were~~ we were in touch with Ho Chi Minh's Government at Hanoi, the French wanted to arrest us. Their request to Chinese, Hanoi being under Chinese occupation, for our arrest was turned down by the Chinese. We asked the Chinese Commander to arrange for our transport to India.

As ^{we} were anxious to go to India, we allowed ourselves to be arrested by the British on the 22nd December. We were flown to Saigon ^{and} eventually to Singapore civil jail. As the British were very anxious to find out the whereabouts and plans of Netaji and ourselves we were closely interrogated by the British Intelligence.

On the 26th December, on the day when the news was flashed that General Shah Nawaz Khan with other champions, were released, an Australian told us that the American, British and Australian Intelligence Departments were not yet convinced about the truth of the news that Netaji's plane had crashed. This Australian was a Sergeant by rank and was employed in jail. We were shifted from Singapore to Changi jail where some Japanese ~~war~~ war criminals were also detained. On March 8th, 1946, we were flown to Delhi for further interrogation.

*Admitted
correct*

My personal opinion is that Netaji may be dead or ~~may~~ may be alive. I keep an open mind regarding this matter.

...

COL. HABIB-UL RAHMAN

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(at present member of the Central Administrative Service of Pakistan.).

.....

My first assignment in the Indian National Army was that of a Commandant of the Officers' training centre at Singapore. Thereafter I became Assistant Chief of Staff and later Deputy Chief of Staff and as such was in charge of the supreme headquarters in Burma. On or about the ^{18th} 23rd February, 1945, I was transferred back to Singapore where I took over charge from the Chief of Staff, Major-General J.K. Bhonsley, of the I.N.A. forces in Malaya and Singapore, totalling approximately 23,000 and continued in this appointment till the 15th August, 1945.

I was a member of the Provisional Government of the Azad Hind and a Member of the War Council also.

Military situation in Burma:

when

At that time I left Burma for Singapore on or about ^{18th} 23rd February, 1945, I.N.A. forces had taken up defensive position. The Military situation in Burma on the 18th February, 1945, was as follows:

No. 2 Division which was under the command of Major-General Shah Nawaz Khan, had taken up defensive position in the area of Mitla. No. 1 division, after reorganisation, was concentrating in Pymina area and the Supreme Headquarters was at Rangoon. The Japanese had also withdrawn and they were covering Mandalay, and they were holding the same line, north of I.N.A. No. 2 Division. The advance elements of the Allied Forces were facing the Japanese and the I.N.A. No. 2 Division

on the opposite bank of ^{Irrawaddy} ~~Irrawadi~~ River. The military situation generally at that time looked ^{desperately} very unfavourable to us. Roughly speaking, our future plan was that our troops should continue the struggle in whatever way they could till the liberation of India. The Burmese forces, as we ~~have~~ had some information, at that time were not putting up the resistance that was expected of them and it was feared that they might not make a definite stand against the Allies.

When the battle in Burma started and ^{INA forces} ~~we~~ made advance ~~in front~~, Netaji wanted to go himself ~~in~~ and to see all the forward areas and the INA troops in actual battle fields, ^B but for safety reasons, he was advised by the Japanese Command as well as our own not to expose himself to such risk, ^{very k k} involved in the front line. This was during the battle of Imphal in the beginning of 1944. As mentioned above, when No. 2 Division was concentrating in Meiktila-Popa area, Netaji ~~again~~ again proceeded for an inspection tour of the front-line areas on the evening of 18th February, 1945, by road, in spite of the advice given by the Japanese as well as our own for safety reasons. I went by plane to Singapore on 19th February, 1945 and assumed charge of the troops in Malaya and Singapore as already stated above on or about the 23rd February, 1945. After some time the situation in Burma deteriorated and the allied forces advanced towards Rangoon rapidly and the situation became untenable and Netaji was obliged to move his Headquarters from Rangoon on 24th April, 1945, ~~arriving~~ to Bangkok arriving there on the 14th May, 1945. Besides Rani of Jhansi Regiment, as many troops as could get back also withdrew to Bangkok and this withdrawal was done by stages, by road.

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As stated above On the 19th February, 1945, I left by plane for Singapore. After his handing over charge, General Bhonsley went by plane to Rangoon, accompanied by Major-General Lokanathan.

A few days after the arrival of Netaji in Bangkok, I was summoned up there for a few days, approximately two weeks after the arrival of Netaji in Bangkok. I flew to Bangkok and there we discussed the ~~general~~ ^{war} situation and I acquainted him about the developments since my taking over charge in Singapore. We also discussed in general terms the world situation, although the war situation was ~~again~~ against Japanese and it appeared in the end they might lose, but no time ^{limit} could be thought of at that time. After staying there for about 3 days, I returned to Singapore. I cannot say whether I went back to Singapore with Netaji or alone. Netaji also came to Singapore on the 18th June, 1945. After his arrival in Singapore, he visited several camps and units of the Azad Hind Fauj, also visited an important station in Malaya where he addressed some meeting and also inspected the camps. During his last tour of Malaya, he was accompanied by General Alagappan, Major Swamy, ^{Col.} ~~Nair~~ I.J. Kiani, Col. Nagar. ~~and~~ ^{myself} All this had a great effect on the morale of the civilian population as well as on Azad Hind Fauj.

In the beginning of August, situation was ^{lifeless} quite ~~bad~~ and it looked that the battle would not last very long.

Netaji went to Kuala Lumpur and Seremban in the middle of July and Major General Alagappan, Mr. ^{Ayyar} ~~Ayyar~~ and myself accompanied him. While we ~~were~~ were occupied with an enquiry, news was received through Col. I.J. Kiani from Kuala Lumpur that Russia had also declared war against Japan. Mr. ^{Ayyar} ~~Ayyar~~ was sent up by car from Seremban to Kuala Lumpur to contact ~~and~~

Col. Kiani to confirm the news in person. Col. Kiani informed Mr. Ayyar that he had received this news through Major General Kiani from Singapore who found it difficult to contact Saremban on telephone. At that time war situation was pretty bad. ~~Thxxxxxxxxxxx~~ On 11th August, 1945, at about Lunch time, a telephone call was received from ~~xxx~~ Maj.Genl. Kiani from Singapore saying that Netaji should return to Singapore immediately in view of the latest war situation.

~~SxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxSingapore~~ When we returned to Singapore Col. Kiani conveyed the news of declaration of war by Russia and we discussed the position and it looked that the Japanese would not last more than few days hereafter. We also discussed the effects of Atom Bomb and the Japanese morale and we started thinking as to what arrangements would have to be made for the troops during the surrender period. Then the surrender news was received on the 12th August through an unofficial source. We met at Netaji's house which was situated on the sea-shore. Apart from Netaji, Mr. Ayyar, Dr. Lakshmaya, Major General Alagappan, Major General Kiani, myself and a few others whose names I do not recollect and Mr. Sarkar, who had come from Bankok, were present. The discussion centered round the immediate situation and how to face it. Mr. Sarkar and some others also suggested that Netaji should leave Singapore and go away to some other safer place as the Allies would adopt a very vindictive attitude towards him. Netaji said "No". He was prepared to face the consequences with his other colleagues. As a matter of fact he said "the worst they can do is to put me against the wall and shoot me and I am prepared for it". While commenting on the immediate situation, Netaji said "no doubt we

have lost in the battle-fields but the tremendous sacrifices made by the soldiers of Azad Hind Fauj and civilian population will not go in vain". He also added that our efforts should be ^{to see} that all we had done in the Far East should be known to our country-men and once it was known, it ^{is bound to} would have a tremendous effect on the ~~morale of the people.~~ ^{freedom struggle}

He said that one should not be dismayed by the present temporary defeat but ^{should} to continue struggle by all means. Some person suggested that Netaji should not stay in Singapore but ultimately it was decided that he would stay there. The concensus of opinion was that Netaji should stay there because at that stage he could not ~~go~~ look for protection or help from any country. Then we discussed the arrangements for the surrender of the Army etc..

It was also ^{discussed} ~~suggested~~ that we as Azad Hind Government and Army ~~wikk~~ would surrender as a separate entity. ~~Some~~ Arrangements for liaison with Japanese General Headquarters in Singapore were made in this regard.

On the 15th August, 1945, at about 8 p.m. a meeting was called at Netaji's house where besides Netaji, Mr. Ayyar, General Alagappan, Maj.Genl.Kiani, myself and Mr. Sarkar were present. At this meeting it was made known that the Japanese Commander in Singapore could not give an assurance for a separate ~~surrender~~ surrender by Azad Hind Government and Army as he said that he had no such instructions and it would not be practicable for him to get in touch with Tokyo; ~~Even~~ ^{been} Wireless communications having ~~destruc~~ ^{been} destroyed. It was also decided that Netaji should not stay there and explore possibility if he could secure asylum so as to continue the struggle. ^{It was decided that}

Netaji should visit Tokyo + try to obtain a decision regarding surrender of INA and the Azad Hind Govt.

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accounts

After further discussion, it was decided that Netaji would be accompanied by Mr. Ayyar, Lt. Col. Pritam Singh and myself from Singapore to Bangkok on the first stage where more persons were to join the party. Major Swamy was sent to Penang to fetch Mr. N. Raghavan. Similar arrangements were made for Mr. Thivy and Major General A.C. Chatterjee to join the party. It was also decided afterwards that I should ~~make~~ ^{take} over charge of the troops in Malaya and Singapore to Maj. Genl. Kiani who was on a short visit to Singapore from Bangkok. In the early morning of the 16th August, 1945, Netaji, Mr. Ayyar, Lt.Col. Pritam Singh and myself went by plane to Bangkok, which was at that time ~~was~~ the seat of the provisional Government of Azad Hind. After negotiations, ^{with} the Japanese Liaison Mission which was known as Hikari Kikan, it was decided that Netaji and party would leave for Bangkok in the first instance so as to get in touch with Field Marshal Trauchi's Headquarters for transport arrangements to Tokyo. From Bangkok Mr. Abid Hasan, Mr. Dev Nath Das, Col. Gulzara Singh, were also to accompany the party. On this day, as far as I remember, Netaji visited the Indian Independence League Headquarters ^{where} he met a large number of prominent civilians who were there and also members of the Azad Hind Government and discussed the present situation. At this time as I was very tired, having kept awake the whole of previous night, I did not take part in any of the discussions and was resting. On the morning of the 17th August, 1945, we left Bangkok at the appointed time, as far as I remember in two parties in two different planes. In ~~one~~ one plane, Netaji, Mr. Ayyar, Lt. Col. Pritam Singh, ~~the Japanese Liaison Officer~~ and myself were travelling and in the other Maj.Genl.Isoda, Chief of the Japanese Liaison Office in

house. At about 12 noon the Japanese Liaison Officers including General Isoda and probably Mr. Hachia and one more officer of the Japanese Army arrived at the house where Netaji was staying. At first Netaji talked to the Japanese Officers separately and after a few minutes I was called in. During my presence, the Japanese officers informed that it was not possible to get a separate plane for the party as was originally expected because the Allies had issued instructions to the Japanese Government which had surrendered on 15th August, 1945, not to fly any plane without their permission. They said, however, that one plane was leaving soon in which one one seat was available. Netaji insisted that we should get a separate plane as he wanted the whole party to go together. After discussion for some time it was apparent that only one seat could be made available as the Japanese expressed their inability to afford more help under the changed circumstances. The Japanese were requested to stay on and Netaji and myself came out and called the rest of the party together. I think the officers who were staying in the separate house from that of Netaji took some time in arriving there. When we all were together Netaji informed all of ^{present} us that only one seat was offered and it did not appear possible to get more seats for others. After a little discussion we requested him that we should not make use of one seat as it was not advisable for Netaji to go alone and we must insist on more seats, if possible. Thereafter Netaji and myself returned (as far as I remember, Mr. Ayyar also joined us) where Japanese were waiting for us. After further consultations by the Japanese over the telephone, with their Air Force authorities, we were informed that one more ^{could be} seat was made available. All three of us then returned and joined the rest of the party. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Here Netaji informed ^{that} ~~that~~ ^{now} we had two seats to avail of. Netaji then asked as to who would accompany him. He looked at each of us who were standing there and while he looked at me he said "you will come with me" ^(آپ چلیں گے) to which I ^{nodded} readily agreed. As far as I remember he asked Col. Gulzara Singh and Mr. Ayyar to bring their luggage ^{in an field} and in case more seats could be procured they would also accompany him in the same plane. For the rest of the party, he requested the Japanese to make a plane available for them and they promised to do their best to help them. During our discussions with the Japanese, it was known that the plane would go to Tokyo via Formosa and some of the passengers were destined for ~~Manchukuo~~ Manchuria. The usual route from Saigon to Tokyo is via Formosa. I cannot say exactly whether the same plane was to take some passengers to Tokyo and from there to Manchuria or there was transshipment of one party or the other on the way. We informed the Japanese ^{that} Netaji and myself would be utilizing the two seats offered. The Japanese ^{then} went away. On recollection I may mention ^{here}, that one junior Japanese Officer who was a part of Hikari Kikan came to the house ^{where} we were staying and informed quietly that only one seat was available in the plane, which was to leave the same day in the afternoon. ~~He~~ was told that Chief of Hikari Kikan, General Isoda and Mr. Machia should come for discussion and they arrived after some time. About ^{the long discussion} ~~half an hour~~ after we decided to make use of the two seats as already stated above. We departed for the aerodrome in two cars. Netaji, myself and Mr. Ayyar ~~xxxx~~, and probably one more, were in one car and the rest were in the other car. When we arrived at the airport, the engine of the plane was running and all the ~~x~~passengers were seated in it.

At the airport we had to wait for about half an hour for the second car to arrive as it included ~~xxxx~~ some belongings of Netaji. The Japanese were getting very impatient for the delay. We could not get two more seats as thought of. As soon as the second car arrived ^{he greeted} after saying good-bye to the rest of the party ^{and} hoping that they would join us soon, Netaji and myself boarded the plane. The luggage which we had brought with us was also kept in the plane. I was carrying an expanding small suit-case and I do not remember the ^{exact} number of packages of Netaji. ~~but I do remember that~~ there was a big (about 36" long in size) leather suit-case and probably two more small leather suit-cases (approximately 20" long in size and 8" in height) which were brought in the second car. As we had boarded the plane they were rushed and put into the plane. As to the contents of the three packages I was told, probably, by Mr. Abid Hasan at the airport that the big suit-case contained Netaji's clothes and the small ones contained jewellery. ^{religion} One box containing clothes was left behind which was later brought by Mr. Ayyar to Tokyo. I am not certain whether both the small suit-cases contained jewellery. ~~Then~~ We boarded the plane in such a great hurry as Japanese were very impatient and the engine was running for more than half an hour. The plane was a Japanese twin engine bomber probably of Sally type and we got into the plane from the port ~~xi~~ (left) side. Before ~~the~~ we boarded the plane, one of the Japanese officers, by the name of Lt. Genl. Shida^ei who came out of the plane, greeted Netaji. As far as I know, he was on the staff of Field Marshal Trauchi's headquarters at Saigon. F.M. Trauchi was the Supreme

Commander of the Japanese Forces of South East Asia Command. General Shidai got into the plane first and Netaji followed him and I went in afterwards. There were no proper seats in the plane. The seating arrangements in the plane was as shown in the enclosed sketch. The number of occupants of the plane including the crew was 12 or 13. In the nose portion of the plane were probably the co-pilot, Radio officer and the Navigator. The seat of the pilot was behind them on the Port side and opposite to him on the ^{starboard} ~~starboard~~ side was sitting Lt. General Shidai. ~~Behind~~ Immediately behind the pilot was sitting Netaji and nobody opposite to him as the space was restricted by the petrol tank. I was sitting immediately behind Netaji. The co-pilot's seat occupied by Lt. General Shidai was offered to Netaji but he did not accept it as it was too small. ^{for him} This seat was in fact meant for the co-pilot. In the ~~turret~~ ^{turret} ~~space~~ was standing one officer of the Air-Force, ~~was standing one officer of the Air-Force~~ and in the rear portion probably 4 other officers of the Japanese Air Force and of the Army. I do not exactly remember their ranks except the name of one Lt. Col. Nonotaki and Capt. Arai whom I met later after the crash in the hospital. We were all sitting in a cramped position. The plane took off at about 5 p.m. and we landed at Touraine on Indochina coast after about 2 hours. The ^{take} ~~take~~ off was quite normal. We rested in Touraine ^{and} for a night. Netaji/myself were put in two separate rooms in a hotel which was not far away from the landing ground. When asked to explain if I knew why Mr. Hachia and General Isoda ~~who were Japanese Liaison~~

Officers attached to Netaji did not accompany him, I told the Committee that my own impression at the time was that they were not enthusiastic about Netaji's going to Tokyo at that time on account of transport and other difficulties involved because of surrender ^{having} taken place 2 or 3 days before. ~~It may also be a reason~~

may be

that there was not enough space in the plane, as I had already stated above. I know there were some junior Japanese Officers ~~were~~ also in the plane but I cannot explain exactly as to why General Isoda and Mr. Hachia could not be allowed to travel in their place. ^{as did} ~~Six~~

~~no~~ ^{no} ~~travel~~ ^{travel} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~plane~~ ^{plane}

So far as I know Touraine was not an important airport.

Netaji and myself were conducted by some Japanese officers in a car without all our belongings. Netaji's belongings were kept in his room of the Hotel. Netaji was in uniform (Bu-shirt-coat and Khakhi drill trousers) and shoes. I am definite that from Bangkok onwards Netaji was wearing the above mentioned uniform. I ^{also} was wearing Khakhi drill (Bu-shirt-coat and shoes).

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On the 18th August, in the morning at about sunrise, we were taken in Japanese car to the aerodrome. The Japanese officers and the passengers were waiting for us at the aerodrome. As on previous evening, the ~~pilot~~ order in getting into the plane was as follows:- the ~~pilot~~, General Shidai, Netaji and myself and then others followed. The crew were already in the plane. The seating arrangements was the same as ^{before} far as Netaji and myself were concerned. The luggage was put in the rear part of the plane - just below the turret. I was in the Khakhi drill uniform (cotton). Netaji was in the same Khakhi drill uniform, wearing the usual badges of of the INA (~~the INA~~) and I.I.L. badge and was also

wearing serge (warm) cap. Soon after our arrival ^{at} the ~~the~~ airport we boarded the plane in the order mentioned above and the plane took off. I did not see anybody carrying out the ~~check-up~~ check-up of the plane ^{or} and the taking out the certificate of its air-worthiness. The take off was quite normal and we did not notice any trouble with the engine during its flight to Taihok~~ho~~, in Formosa, where we landed at about 2 p.m. (Japanese time). During the flight I felt cold ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the clothes that I was ~~wearing~~ wearing. In my opinion the plane was flying at the time at a fairly high altitude, possibly over 12-14000 feet. The plane had no ^{seat} belts. Since it was a bomber, there were no windows in the front portion between the ~~terret~~ turret and the pilot to see through the ground. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ It did not carry ^{any} ~~in~~ parachute for bailing out. We touched down in the normal manner. It came to stop and we were told that we could get out and have a light lunch and in the meantime they would refuel the plane. We landed at about 2 p.m. (Japanese time), ~~after about 5 hours of flight~~. Everybody got out of the plane. As far as I remember the run-way appeared to be a ^u pakka run-way and a large one, but I am not sure whether it was of a concrete one. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ There were buildings which were of ^{concrete} ~~concerent~~ but badly bombed ^{out} and were not in use. I did not see any ~~pend~~ sheds or shelter in the vicinity for keeping fighting aircraft. I did not see any other plane in the air-field. The air-field looked to me a civilian air-field. As on previous occasion in November, 1944, when I accompanied Netaji to Tokyo we landed at the same air-field and also on our visit to Shanghai in the same month in 1944. The ~~run-way~~ ^{to} direction of run-way was north-south. The run-way

in in flat country with mountains to its north and north-east at a distance of about 8 to 10 miles. I did not notice any control-towers and I am not sure about radio-communications, but I found the usual air-field personnel working there. I did not see any hangers ^{either} too. As ~~far~~ soon as we got out of the plane, I told Netaji that I wanted to change my clothes from Khakhi (cotton) clothes to warm uniform as I was feeling very cold during the flight ^{since} as the plane was flying at a very high altitude and I asked him if he would like to change into warm uniform. He said that he did not feel cold and therefore he did not want to change. However, I took out Netaji's pull-over - I do not remember the colour - from his suit-case and handed ^{it} over to him before I changed my clothes. He was standing there and I went over to the ^{starboard} staff-board side of the plane and changed my ^{into warm} uniform, ^{brush shirt} Bu-shirt-coat (full sleeves) ^{trousers} and top long boots. While I was changing, Netaji was standing there. ^{when he was} This time I ^{saw him} saw him standing ^{and looking at} and looking at ^{into} a distance which struck me something unusual. Then we both moved on to a tent at the end of north-eastern of the airport where other Japanese were having light lunch. We also helped ourselves ^{to} ~~and~~ had sandwiches and some bananas. All this took us about half an hour when we were signalled again to emplane. The sitting order in the plane was as before. I did notice the refuelling of the plane and some people round about the plane but I did not see ^{any} the proper check-up. As a matter of fact I did not look for it. The plane took off just about 2.35 p.m. ^{and} it circled over the aerodrome. ~~xx~~ I did not notice anything unusual in the way of noise. The entrance was fairly wide and one could easily get in and get out. We were the last to get in. There was

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There was only one opening. After taking off, the plane circled over the air-field at a few hundred feet height and then it ~~had~~ turned north or north-east. We were not more than 5 or 6 minutes in the air and the plane was still gaining height when suddenly I heard a defening noise as if some cannon shell had hit the ^{starboard} staff-board side of the plane. My immediate reaction was that some enemy plane carrying cannon had fired at our plane and had hited. As soon as

I heard the noise the plane started wobbling with nose ^{down} down-wards and I heard ~~xxx~~ weiling noise usually heard at the time the plane makes a noise ^{nose dive} diving to bomb. My immediate reaction was to cover my face with both hands and at that time our heads were down-wards and I remember having been struck with the packages at my back. Within a few seconds the plane crashed on the ground and its fore-portion split and ^{the fore} front portion of the plane caught fire.

Netaji turned towards me. I said ("AUGAY SAY NIKAL ^{RAY} PICHAY SAY RASTA NAHIN HAY".) We could not get back through the ^{entrance} door as it was all blocked and jammed by boxes and other things. So Netaji got out through the fire; actually he ^{rushed} jumped through the fire. I followed him through the same flame. The moment I got out, I saw him about 10 ~~xxxxx~~ yards ahead of me standing looking in his face in the opposite direction ^{to} ~~of mine~~ ^{toward the west} more or less towards the west away from me. His clothes were on fire. I rushed ^{to} and I had ^{to} a lot of difficulty in unfastening the ^{his belt} shirt belt. His trousers were not ^{so much} on fire and it was not necessary to take them off. He was not wearing the sweater. He was wearing the Khaki drill. I laid him down on the ground and I noticed a very deep cut

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"Please get out through the front door. There is no way in the rear."

on his head probably on the left side.

His face had been ^{scorched} scorched by the heat

and his hair also caught fire and ^{singed} singed.

The cut in his head was a long one about

4" long. He was bleeding profusely. It was

a straight cut. I tried to stop the

bleeding with bandaging.

note - See next page
Habit R. [signature]
9/4/56

As for myself is concerned, my both hands were very badly burnt. As I came through the fire, the right side of my face was burnt and I noticed I had received a cut in the forehead which was bleeding and also the right side of my right knee was also bleeding profusely as it had hit some hard substance. The head cut was caused by ^{hitting} bombing of the floor as the plane crashed. My clothes did not catch fire. My hands were burnt very badly in the attempt to take off Netaji's clothes and ~~put out the fire.~~

Both my hands up to the wrist show marks of deep burning even after a lapse of more than ten years. ^{the} The members of the Committee examined ^{and saw marks of severe burn.} my hands. / Later on, even my nails came off. The nail of the left thumb has not come up properly. Marks of burns were also noticed on the right side of the face and just near the right ear. Injury marks were also seen on the forehead and right leg.

When I laid Netaji on the ground, I myself lay by his side. I was feeling acute pain ^{and felt exhausted} ~~and I felt exhausted~~ and I instantly saw a Japanese passenger about 20 yards away bleeding profusely and moaning. Just then, Netaji enquired from me in Hindustani " AAP Ko Ziada TOU NAHIN LAGI". I replied, " I feel that I will be alright." About himself, he said that he felt that he would not survive. I replied, " Oh! No, God will spare you. " I am sure you will be alright. "

(hope you have not been hurt badly)

He said, "No, I don't think so. " He used these words -

" When you go back to the country, tell the people that up to the last I have been fighting for liberation of my country, they should continue to struggle and I am sure India will be free ~~very soon~~ ^{before long}. No body can keep India in bondage. ~~for long~~ ^{not}.

In Roman

(جی. ای. بھائی صاحب کو ملے جانے کو شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں)
میں نے ان کی آزادی کے لیے لڑا اور وہ مجھے آزادی
دیا، ان کے لیے - نیشنل کی آزادی کے لیے - اس کے
برائے میں (کرتا تھا)

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I said I am sure you will be alright and actually I believed in that. I made attempts to stop ^{the} bleeding in his head. ^{As} Again I laid him down. We were in that position for about, I think, 15 to 20 minutes when a Japanese ambulance and lorry with some Japanese nurses arrived there. I think the air-crash took place not more than 1 to 2 miles outside the air-field. It was a ^{or} ~~plane~~ ^{plain} ~~open~~ ^{broken} land. I noticed a heap of stones near the place where the plane had crashed. The plane continued to burn. I did not notice any village or habitation nearby. We were removed in a lorry. We lay on the floor of the lorry and rushed to the nearest H_ospital. Later on, I discovered that that was Air-force Emergency Hospital. It was a purely military hospital. There was one Doctor in charge of that Hospital. I think we reached there at

about 3 o' clock. The ward in which both of us were kept was double the size of this room. At the time ^(20x20) when we arrived ^{at the hospital} there, we were the first to be put into that room. There was no other patient in that ward. But later on, some other patients were brought there. That ward could have about 10 to 12 beds and on the first day there were three- Netaji, myself and one more person who was very badly burnt. I think he was the pilot. Netaji's and my bed were side by side. I stayed in the Hospital for about a week or so. A number of other patients were put in there. The Doctor's name was ^{Dr. Ayogy} Captain Ayogy. He was in charge of the Hospital. As soon as we were taken to the Hospital, the ^{doctor} Dr. came ^{to} and dressed me because I was still in uniform. I told him to attend Netaji at once. He immediately attended him ^{there} and somebody else stitched my ^{hand} wounds - right leg wound and dressed my hands. Netaji was conscious when he came in the lorry but he was in acute pain. He was taken to the Operation Theatre room. There the ^{doctor} Dr. gave him camphor ^{a white} transfusion. I ^{asked} the Dr. later on. He said that it was a very deep injury and his heart was affected by the burns. I was being attended to separately in the same ward. I was not taken to the operation theatre. When Netaji was brought back from the operation theatre, he did not talk much; he was a little conscious. After about an hour, he fell into complete coma. The Dr's opinion

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was that he was in a bad state but that he would be alright. May be that he wanted to assure me. Two or three nurses were fanning him. The nurses were in their uniforms. The names of the nurses I did not know even then. I do not think blood transfusion was given. I cannot say whether they did not have it. I would here state that that area had been very heavily bombarded by the Americans and the place was in a mess. So I do not know what was the state of other hospitals. The Doctor was sanguine in the beginning but after about 3 hours he was not so hopeful. Once or twice Netaji asked for water. Once he mentioned the name of Hasan. I said, "Hasan is not here" and I gave him my name. Then ~~he~~ asked for water at that time. Thereafter I think he was completely ^{un}conscious. During this period some senior Army officers of the Japanese headquarters came and said that they were very sorry. ^{about the accident} About other ^{passengers} officers, I was told that General Shidei had been killed, and three others had also been killed. Then three of four had died in the hospital later on. Only ^{four} three persons survived. The survivors were: ^{myself} the person whom I saw immediately after ^{arrival in} the hospital. He was one Col. of the Airforce. His name ^{was} Nonogaki who was in the turret. ^{and was wounded.} The pilot was badly burnt and he survived after several months' treatment. I do not know the name

of the other survivors. I was told that four had survived including myself out of the whole number of 12.

One Capt. Arai also survived. He was in the rear behind me.

nothing
A The civilian Japanese who probably belonged to the local administration came to the Hospital at that time.

in Nov 1944
~~He enquired about us as he knew us~~ well because he had met us before at Taihoku during our previous visit.

I cannot recollect his name. This Japanese civilian was either in the intelligence or security service.

He spoke English well.

(Japan time.)

18 Aug, 45
At about 9 o' clock Netaji

expired, i.e. six hours after the crash.

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On The first day three or four Japanese staff officers came to see Netaji. Netaji was still alive. *I think* When the Japanese civilian came, he was still alive.

Netaji was lying in the bed next to mine when he expired. At the time when Netaji expired, the following persons were present:-

Captain Ayog~~y~~, myself and some Japanese nurses.

The English-speaking Japanese civilian was also there.

doctor
The Dr. certified that Netaji was dead. I am not aware whether the *doctor* Dr. made out any death certificate.

I told this Japanese civilian that he should go and inform the Headquarters and request them on my behalf that I would like Netaji ^{body} to be transported to Singapore where all our Government and Army officers were present. This was during ^{evening} ~~day~~ time. He did not come back that night. As far as I remember, I did ^{set up} ~~not sit~~ the whole night in that room because it was quite hot. ^{and I could not sleep} The body was there. ^{and a security guard was guarding it.}

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This was on the 18th August night. On the morning of the 19th August at about 9 o' clock, the Japanese civilian mentioned above, returned to the hospital accompanied by a Japanese Army Staff Officer from the local Military Headquarters. I repeated my request to the Japanese officer that arrangements for the transportation of Netaji's body to Singapore should be made. He said that he would make the arrangements as desired. He also asked me if any more help was required, and I said that the body should go in the coffin and arrangements for its preservation should be made. The Japanese Staff Officer went away saying that they would do their best. Netaji's body was still in the same room but it was shifted on the morning of the 19th, to the other corner of the room further from the entrance, where a screen was put round it and a Japanese sentry was on guard. The bed of the pilot was also in the same room and as far as I remember it was shifted towards the entrance. On enquiry I was informed that the other injured were in the other wards. We were only three in the same ward, Netaji, the pilot and myself. I had developed fever and I did not like taking food for several days. I cannot say who were in the other wards and what the condition was. After sometime, a coffin box of camphor wood was brought in and Netaji's body was put in that, I think, in the afternoon and the

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box was nailed, and I was given to understand that this was being done so that the body could be transported conveniently. The Dr. ^{doctor} and the other staff of the Hospital were present there at that time. I was told that the box was sent by the Military headquarters. I again conveyed through the Japanese civilian who had come the previous day that ^{he} should expedite the transportation of Netaji's body to Singapore. ^{~ Tokyo} On that day, a number of senior Japanese Military officers, including a full Col. came and expressed their regret to me over the unfortunate accident ~~and~~ and they promised to help to transport the body and me to Singapore as requested by me. (I cannot give the names of the Japanese officers; they were three or four in number). The body was wrapped in a white sheet of cloth with cotton ^{padding} underneath and the coffin was nailed. I was present when the body was put in the coffin. The body was fully dressed and no part of it was visible, ^{even} may be the feet might be visible. In the Hospital he was dressed in the usual Japanese type gown which reached 6" above the ankle. The upper part of his whole body was smeared with ^{white burn} ointment. The coffin was laid on two benches or two stools in the ~~same screen project~~ ^{same screened portion}. On the morning of that day, i.e. the 19th August, I also conveyed through the Japanese civilian that they should go and see what has happened to our luggage. I actually told him that

to Japan HQ

Hand and legs

R

25 *Jewellery*

I believed that there was some gold also in one or two of the leather suit cases and that they should see that that is not lost. Sometime in the same afternoon, this person returned and said that the plane had been completely burnt including our luggage in it and the Japanese headquarters were able to salvage some charred ^{*Jewellery*} golden ornaments etc, and had kept it in safe custody under a military guard in their Headquarters.

When the Japanese officers came on the 19th, I asked them as to what was the cause of the accident. They said that they were looking into the matter. I am not aware whether a proper enquiry was held by them at that time or not as to the cause of the accident.

On the evening of the 19th August, I again sent that civilian officer to the Japanese headquarters enquiring ~~as to~~ ^{*whether*} whether the next morning, we were being flown to Singapore. He returned and said that the Japanese Commander was ^{*very*} actually sorry that they could not arrange for the transportation of the coffin of Netaji as requested by ~~him~~ ^{*me*} and one of the reasons which he gave was that that the coffin could not be placed in a bomber. I had lot of arguments with them over this and I personally was not satisfied with this.

Next morning, i.e. on the 20th, the Japanese Staff officer from the Headquarters whose name I do not know, came and

expressed their inability to help at this juncture for the transportation of the body and said that they had in fact measured the size of the coffin and the space into the plane and they found that the coffin as it was, could not be put into the plane. I asked as to why they could not arrange for a bigger plane but the officer informed that they did not have a bigger plane at that place. Then the officer asked me as to what I wanted to be done with the body. I said "C_n't you arrange for the embalming of the body." After consultation with the officer commanding the Hospital, I was told that they did not have the necessary medicines available with them for this purpose. Finding no alternative, it was decided that the body should be cremated. As far as I remember, the officer commanding the Hospital, the staff officer (who was a Major General whose name I dnot recollect) and the Japanese civilian were present at the time when this decision was taken on the 20th morning.

I also made enquiries whether any Indian was living in Taihoku or in any other part of Formosa and I was informed that there was nobody from India or of Indian nationality living in Formosa. In fact I asked this on the 18th August.

On the 20th morning, the photogra-
pher arrived and one photograph in which I was sitting beside Netaji's coffin was taken.

Then The lid of the coffin was removed and the

body was uncovered. The body was probably covered in Japanese Hospital gown. The lower part of the body was not uncovered. The head was bandaged; the face was open. It was swollen and disfigured. It was coated with white ointment for burn. It was hot in Formosa at that time and it was the third day after the accident. The face was ~~could be~~ ^{by} recognised to me. I am not sure whether a part of the face was covered with bandage. The chest part was also covered with the same white ointment. The signs of burn were visible all over the chest. He had burns on the hands and I think the arms were alright. One of his fingers was damaged. His upper lip also appeared cut. The body remained in the coffin throughout and that was the reason why I did not see the back. The abdomen was swollen. The lower portion of the body remained covered. The photo of his body (excluding the face) was taken at my request. Since the face was not in good condition as mentioned above, I requested them not to take the photo of the face out of sheer sentiment. The photographer was sent by the Japanese Headquarters and I learnt that photos of the burnt plane had also been taken. They were taking the photos themselves and as the face was disfigured I asked them to take the photo without ^{the} face. I would not have objected to the taking of the photo of the face had it been in normal condition. I cannot exactly say why the photograph was not taken on 18th and 19th August 1945.

9.4.56.

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On the 20th August, 1945, I was informed that arrangements for the cremation had been made and soon after the coffin was put in Japanese military lorry or ambulance. The Coffin was escorted by two lorries full of Japanese soldiers and staff of the hospital ^{and Japanese officers} in four staff-cars. There were also a few civilians present. In one of the cars, Japanese General (probably Garrison Commander) also came. I also went in one of the cars; my hands, head and face and legs bandaged and wearing the hospital dress. Most probably, the ~~civilians~~ ^{officers} were with me in the car. As far as I recollect one car was leading, followed by the lorry carrying Netaji's coffin, followed by escorts and other cars. I was in one of the cars in the rear. After arrival at the crematorium, which was approximately at a distance of 3 to 4 miles from the Hospital, Netaji's coffin was removed from the lorry by the Japanese soldiers and the escort paid compliments according to their customs and all those present also paid compliments. All this ~~was took~~ place just outside the entrance of the crematorium. As far as I remember a Japanese priest was also present at that time. Body was taken out of the coffin and was taken up by the Japanese inside the crematorium.

The crematorium was a pakka building, fairly high (18-20'), and approximately 40 to 50 feet in length. Its width was about 25 to 30 feet. There were 12 to 14 ^{incinerators} chambers in probably two rows with metallic doors which could be locked.

The chamber was just near the passage. The body of Netaji was taken out from the coffin and was placed on a stretcher like thing, into the ^{incinerator} chamber. The fire was burning under-neath in the even. The

2nd incinerator
 door was locked and I kept the key with me over-night. We did not stay there all the time. This was approximately between 11 a.m. and 12 noon. I was brought back to the Hospital as ~~I was still sick~~ from Crematorium, after the fire was *put* on. My own impression was that it was a civilian crematorium. The Japanese civilian who has been mentioned previously was also present. I do not recollect his name. He was a man of above 45 years of age; 5' 4" in height, slight in ~~build~~ built, dark complexion for Japanese. He had spent about 6 to 8 years in the United States and could speak English well. This person was attending us during our visit to Japan in November, 1944 when we were obliged to stay at ~~xx~~ Taihoku where ~~we were~~ put up in a hotel for 4 or 5 days on account of weather conditions. Mr. Nigechi~~x~~ who was in Hikari Kikan, was acting as interpreter and was with us at that time. He might remember him.

On the morning of the 21st August, 1945, I went to crematorium accompanied by two or three Japanese, including the civilian, and opened the lock of the *incinerator* chamber with the key which was with me. I was present and I saw the ashes of Netaji's body inside it. We had a wooden urn to collect the ashes. We collected some ashes from the head-side, ~~which~~ nearest to the door, and placed them in the urn. I remember distinctly that a little ~~piece~~ *piece* of gold which was from the filling of one of Netaji's teeth was removed and placed in the urn. Then we came back and deposited the urn containing ashes in a Japanese temple which was on our way to Hospital. Arrangements had already been made for offering of the prayer in Japanese customs in that temple and I myself saw a number of Japanese priests *as called for several days* praying there. The urn was made of ~~xxx~~ whitish-coloured

wood, square in shape (about 6" or 7") and height also 6" or 7". As far as I remember the top was nailed in the crematorium. I was told by the Japanese that the ashes would be carried with me when I am taken to Tokyo. The temple was outside Taihoku town. I ~~came back from the hospital~~ where I ~~was kept for about a week~~. Probably on the day, when we collected the ashes or the following day, a wooden box of about ^{8" square - 4" base and 16" high} ~~16" or 18" square~~ was brought ~~by me~~ to me by an officer of the Japanese Headquarters, accompanied by the civilian mentioned above and they informed me that it contained some ^{charred} ~~charge~~ jewellery. The box which was salvaged from the wreckage of the ~~plane~~ was nailed at that time. I asked them to open the box in front of me which they did. I saw that it contained some pieces of gold bangles, some ear-rings and ^{charred} ~~charge~~ gold. Everything was not taken out. These were mixed with a good deal of newly burnt ashes and pieces of clay and some small stones. The box was nailed down again and tied up with a tape and sealed with ^{sealing} wax by the Japanese in front of me. It was then taken back again to the Japanese Headquarters. I was still sick and was removed along with 2 or 3 patients to a Japanese military hospital about 3 to 10 miles away in the hills.

I did not see the body of General Shiada and I do not ^{know} how the bodies of other passengers who ^{were} could have been killed ⁱⁿ during the ^{crash} of the ^{aircraft} were disposed of.

The Hospital was well-equipped one with a number of wards, doctors and could, in my opinion, accommodate about 100 patients. I was ~~not~~ under treatment in that hospital up to the 5th September, 1945 when I was brought down to Taihoku airfield,

and was flown in a Red-Cross plane to an airport, some distance away from Tokyo. ~~accompanied~~

Accompanying me at the time were two or three Japanese Officers, probably one of them was Col. Nonogaki. The ^{urn} ~~box~~ containing ashes of Netaji and the wooden box containing valuables were also taken ^{charge of} by this officer. I had not completely recovered at the time and my head, hands and legs were still bandaged. I was wearing the same serge uniform which I was wearing at the time of crash. I was taken to the military aerodrome on the main island of Japan from where we boarded a Japanese ^{train} ~~twin~~ for Tokyo ^{at night}. ~~This was about night-time.~~ One Major Nakamiya, a Japanese Officer whom I knew before, also accompanied us from Taihoku in the same plane and he was with us in the train also, in the night, ^{we} and arrived on the 6th September, 1945 in the suburbs of Tokyo in the morning. It was a goods train. As far as I remember, the urn and the box ^{were taken} ~~were taken~~ by Col. Nonogaki ~~of the Japanese General Headquarters.~~

The ashes were being carried ^{by him} ~~in~~ personally in a Japanese style (supported by white ^{cloth band from} ~~bang~~). ~~Next day~~ ^{the next} ~~that~~ I was told that the urn and the box will ^{would} be deposited in the General Headquarters. I spent 6th of September and the night of 6th-7th September, in the house of Major Nakamiya. On the 7th September, I was taken to the house of Mr. Ramamurty in Tokyo city who was then the President of the Indian Independence League. The ashes of Netaji had been collected by ^{and Mr. Ayyar} Mr. Ramamurty from General Headquarters and were kept in his house. The same night I went to the house of Mr. Sahay where I met Mr. S.A. Ayyar ^{who} ~~whom~~ I learnt had ~~been~~ flown from Saigon to Tokyo a day or so after the news of the air-crash at Taihoku had

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been communicated to Saigon where ~~he was at the~~
~~time.~~ I was staying in a house quite close
 to that of Mr. Ramamurthy's and Mr. Ayyar, who
 was previously staying with Mr. Sahay, shifted
 to Mr. Ramamurthy's house. I communicated all
 that had happened about the air crash from
 the time we left Saigon ~~and~~ to Mr. Ayyar on
 the night when we met first at Mr. Sahay's
 house. I was still sick and weak.

~~For~~ 4 or 5 days after my arrival in Tokyo,
 Netaji's ashes were deposited by Mr. Ayyar and
 Mr. Ramamurthy and other Indians present after
 due ceremony in a Japanese temple not far away
 from Mr. Ramamurthy's house. Since I was sick,
 I ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ was not present on that occasion.
 One Japanese Lt.Col, whose name I do not remember,
 saw me in Maj. Nakamiya's in the morning of the
 6th September and conveyed condolences on behalf
 of the Japanese ^{Govt} on the unfortunate air crash
 at Taihoku in which Netaji had died. Later on
 I went to the Japanese Foreign Office where I
 met Mr. Fukai whom I knew before. A few days
~~later~~ after my arrival in Tokyo, Mr. Ayyar and
 Mr. Ramamurthy were called ^{at} Japanese General
 Headquarters and the wooden box containing the
 valuables was handed over to them. When they
 brought it to Mr. Ramamurthy's house, I was called
 and was shown the box. I recognised that the
 box was same which I got sealed at Taihoku but
 the seals had been broken and it appeared the
 box had been opened. Mr. Ramamurthy and Mr. Ayyar
 told me that they got the ~~box~~ box in that condition
 and that they had to wait for getting this box
 for about 1½ to 2 hours. I am not aware whether

the contents of the box were shown to them at the time of its handing over to them or not. After ~~lifting~~ ^{for} ~~lifting~~ the box I felt that it was much lighter in weight and when it was opened in my presence I could see that it was less than half full and contained some ashes mixed with some ~~charge~~ ^{charred} gold armaments. It appeared that the box had been tampered with. The contents of the box were removed in my presence and were weighed and recorded. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ I remember having signed some paper, but I do not remember whether others signed it or not. ~~THE~~ These were deposited at Mr. Ramamurty's house.

I was interrogated by the American intelligence ^{ten} after ^{after my arrival} two days thereafter and after two weeks thereafter ^{as} I was interrogated by the British Military Officers. I stayed in Tokyo up to the 18th November, 1945 as a free man, of course the British Intelligence knew where I was but it was arranged that whenever I went out of Tokyo, I was to inform them. ~~XXXXX~~

~~XXXXX~~

It may be of interest to mention here, that when I left Taihoku I was given a watch by the Officer commanding of the Hospital who had treated Netaji saying that it was Netaji's watch which was removed from his wrist after his death. I do not remember the make of the watch but it had charred leather strap because of fire. Later on I managed to ~~hand~~ ^{Mr. Bhulabhai} the watch over to Netaji's family through Bholabhai Desai. I ~~could not contact~~ ^{did personally hand over} Sarat Chandra Bose, the ~~elder~~ ^{brother} of Netaji. I left Tokyo on the 18th night and arrived in Delhi on the 23rd ~~XXXX~~ September in connection with Red Fort Trial.

I did not personally hand over the watch to Sarat Chandra Bose and I could not exactly tell

you whether the watch was running or not when I ~~got it~~ ^{received it - from the medical officer}

Habib Rehman
8/4/56

There are several witnesses, who were examined in Calcutta, who had been able to sign only their draft statements. In the case of witness No. 11 (Calcutta witnesses file placed below), Shri Majumdar had corrected the statement and forwarded it with his letter. It is, therefore, for consideration whether fair copies may be sent to them for their signatures and return to the Committee.

ldd
20/6/52

Recd.



~~SECRET.~~

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Hanoi,
the 14th June 1956.

No. F.12(4)CG/56

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My Dear Shah Nawaz Khan Sahib,

I herewith enclose four copies of my statement that I made before the Committee in Saigon. As I had to do some brushing up, you may find slight changes here and there. But, there is no change in the facts as stated. It is only change in language.

I hope your tour of East Asia in search of truth regarding the circumstances under which Netaji died was successful. I have been watching through the columns of newspapers your efforts as well as your difficulties. After seeing what I saw in Saigon, I have been very pessimistic about the report being unanimous. If you succeed in achieving this, it will be a great success in itself. I hope to hear from you some times.

With all best wishes to you & family

Yours sincerely,

A.M. Sahay
(A.M. Sahay)

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan,
Chairman,
Netaji Enquiry Committee,
c/o Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

Bangkok.

Witnesses examined at Bangkok,
Saigon and Tourane.

1. Statement by Pandit Raghunath Sharma.

2. " Shri Ishwar Singh.

3. " Uttam Chand Sharma.

4. " A.C. Das.

Saigon.

5. " Ram Neo Gosai.

6. " A.M. Sahay (draft only, fair copies
being sent for signatures
to Mr. Sahay.)

Tourane.

7. " Ghulam Dastgir.

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Statement of Shri Anand Mohan Sahay,
Consul General for the Govt. of India,
at Hanoi (North Viet-Nam), recorded
at Saigon, on 1st May 1956 at 3 P.M!

I first went to Kobe (Japan) in 1923.

✓
Fair copy
sent to
Srinivas
on 1/6

I was a member of the non-co-operation movement,
Private Secretary to Dr. Rajendra Prasad before going
to Japan. In 1922 after the Congress movement became
slack, I felt that why waste time; I might go to
America and complete my study in medicine and then to
come back and join the political movement. But the
British did not let me have a pass-port for America
because I had been in some correspondence in the past
with the Gaddar Party of San Francisco. My uncle,
Shri Sinha, was Finance Member of the Executive Council
of Bihar and with his help I could get a pass-port for
Japan with the hope that from there I would be able to
get a pass-port for going to America. In Japan I tried
to get my pass-port but perhaps the Consul General there
did not trust what I said. So I continued to stay in
Japan. I could not continue my studies because of
language difficulty and because I did not get my pass-port.
I did not wish to return to India. In Japan I used to
earn my livelihood by writing articles; I had been a
teacher & a professor. I continued my political activities
by writing articles on the life of Shri C.R.Das, Mahatma
Gandhi and other eminent leaders. I tried to organise
the youth of local Indian community in Japan. Most of the
Indians in Japan were businessmen, not interested in politics.
I came in contact with Shri Rash Behari Bose who was in
Tokyo. He was known top-most Indian revolutionary in Japan.
He had sought asylum in Japan since 1918 war.

I had no particular outside contacts except
with a few friends in San Francisco who were connected with
the Gaddar Party. I also met Raja Mahendra Pratap who came
to Japan in 1925. I maintained my correspondence with
Dr. Rajendra Prasad and used to get his guidance.

In August 1926 we organised the ASian
Conference in Nagasaka. I attended that Conference. After
the deliberations of that Conference, I felt that I should
come to India and establish contacts. So I thought of
coming as a merchant. I had some business connections;
at that time I was working for some Indian firm in Japan.
So in November 1926 I came to India with some samples, via

Hongkong, Malaya, Singapore, Colombo, to Madras, Calcutta and then to Patna.

I knew Subhas Babu since 1922. In 1927 when he returned from Mandalay after his imprisonment there, he was not well and I met him at his house. At that time, we discussed as to what we can do outside India and he said that Japan would play a very important part in future and we should carry on our propaganda and publicity about India's struggle for freedom in Japan as well as other parts of the world. During this period, I also met Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru but I had no detailed discussion with him. I returned to Japan in October 1927 with my wife and continued my political activities with the object of strengthening the movement ~~of~~ for India's independence. I organised the Indian National Congress Branch in 1928 with headquarters at Kobe. Then I corresponded with Panditji and he welcomed this idea and through his support the Japan Branch was recognised by the Congress. Since then, I was in regular correspondence with Panditji and with Netaji.

I was in Japan when the last war broke out. When the war broke out in Europe, Raja Mahendra Pratap came to me from Tokyo and with him I tried to do something to help India in her struggle for freedom. We collected some funds from the Indian community. Then we started some publicity and mobilised public opinion with a view to intensifying our activities. I contacted my Japanese friends because of my being the teacher, there were many Japanese officers in the Army whom I knew and they liked this idea and help me in contacting the Japanese officers when I was trying to secure their co-operation. Some of them in the beginning did not like to be co-operative because they did not believe in Raja Mahendra Pratap's capacity to keep up things. ^{secret}

When Japan declared war against the Anglo-Americans on 8th December 1941, I was in Tokyo staying in Railway Hotel. ^{we} I held a dinner in the hotel where ^{we} I invited Shri Rash Behari Bose to take the leadership of the movement. He accepted it. We all merged ourselves into one movement. Raja Mahendra Pratap did not join us. We had a conference in Tokyo of all the Indians in Japan in the end of December 1941 or the beginning of January 1942. At that conference, we all agreed to appoint Shri Rash Behari Bose as the president of the Indian Independence League, and other office bearers were also appointed. Prior to this, we had formed

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a committee of action with Shri Rash Behari Bose as the President, Raja Mahendra Pratap as the Vice-President and myself as the General Secretary. Previously, we had decided to have our nucleus in Bangkok and had sent Shri Debnath Das to organise the movement there. I had friends already there.

Shri Rash Behari Bose continued to remain in Japan. As the Japanese forces advanced into Malaya, *Indian volunteers from Bangkok* ~~workers of the I.I.L.~~ went forward with them with the object of *working behind the lines among Indian troops.* ~~organising the League branches.~~ When the British surrendered ^{at} Singapore, we decided to have a conference in Tokyo of the representatives of Indians in Malaya ^{Thailand, China etc.} and Indian Army representatives who had surrendered and who had been handed over to the Japanese. It was in March/April 1942. This conference was attended by the representatives of ^{Indian} Army from Malaya and civilians from Malaya, Thailand, Hongkong and Japan and it was decided that we should organise the Indian National Army to fight for freedom and it was also decided to hold a more representative conference ~~later on~~ in Bangkok. Then we came to ~~Bangkok via~~ ^{and thence to Bangkok by air.} Saigon by a ship and there a more representative conference was held probably in June 1942. We appointed a Council of Action consisting of Shri Rash Behari Bose, Mohan Singh, Zilani, Raghavan and Menon. Capt. Mohan Singh was appointed G.O.C. of the Indian National Army. We also sought certain clarifications from the Japanese regarding their attitude towards India and regarding our freedom movement. We also passed a resolution requesting that Shri Subhas Chandra Bose be invited to the Far East. The Japanese were not very keen in the beginning to bring Netaji. We established our League headquarters at Bangkok and we continued to press the Japanese to bring Netaji. At last they agreed. At that time, my main concern was to keep our movement free from Japanese influence and dominance. I had direct contact with Netaji in Berlin through the German Embassies at Tokyo and Bangkok. I had this contact with him since before the war. After the Bangkok Conference, I was allotted a very unimportant piece of work. After some months the headquarters of the League moved to Singapore and there was some crisis in the I.N.A. because of some differences of opinion between Genl. Mohan Singh and Shri Rash Behari Bose. As a result of that crisis, the first INA collapsed and General Mohan Singh was removed from the command probably towards the end of 1942. When these events were taking place,

I was called to Singapore by Shri Rash Behari Bose. He explained the position to me. He was in a ^{very disturbed} ~~fix~~ of mind. He was endeavouring to prevent the INA from disintegration. Eventually, he succeeded in reorganising it under General Bhonsle as Director of Military Bureau. I was not interested in all these moves and my main attention was concentrated on how to get Netaji to the Far East.

Eventually, Netaji arrived in Singapore on 2nd of July 1943. I arrived in Singapore one day later. I met him on the 3rd evening and had a long talk with him during which I sought clarification regarding his ^{attitude} ~~ideas~~ towards the Indian National Congress and towards Gandhiji and Panditji. He gave me a full picture of what had happened between him and the Congress during the last few years. When I ^{asked} ~~put~~ him ^{him} ~~the question~~ if our movement would seek the co-operation of the Congress, Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru or would they go against it, he told me that Mahatma Gandhi was just like his father and he could never think of going against him. So far as Jawahar Lal Nehru was concerned, he said that he felt that Nehru belonged to the ~~left~~ left camp and his only complaint was that he should not stand on the middle of the road but should ^{He said after India was liberated there would be no cause for such} come and lead the left. ^{difference} When I told him that for any success of our movement from without, the co-operation of the masses of India was necessary and for this reason, the Congress should not be antagonised, he agreed with ^{me} ~~this~~ and he assured me that his whole idea was to appeal to the people of India and he knew that the Congress was India's ~~hand~~. Upon ^{whole heartedly} that I decided to work with him and offered my co-operation. I was appointed Secretary in charge of the ^{in Indian Independence League} Indians overseas. From time to time I was given other jobs too because he trusted me.

I was present in Singapore on October 21st when Netaji organised the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. I was appointed as the Secretary General to the Provisional Govt. of Azad Hind with the rank of a Minister. ^{and took oath of allegiance with other ministers} Immediately after that, on the 28th October, we left for Tokyo to attend the Greater East Asia Conference. Netaji's party consisted of the following officers:-

General Bhonsle,
Myself,

Major Hasan and Col. Raju.

Netaji attended the conference as an observer because Netaji considered that conference to be a more or less Japanese-sponsored movement and did not fit into his ideas. After that conference, we had a special conference with the ^{representatives of Ministry of} Navy, the

Foreign Ministry and other departments regarding the transfer of Andamans & Nicobars. We stayed in Tokyo ^{about} for one month. We went to Singapore after the middle of December. We stayed for one night in Philippines on our way to Tokyo. We flew over the East Indies islands. I remember having landed at Taihoku in Formosa. ^{and spent one night at Nagasaki before} I did not ^{completing} accompany Netaji on his return ^{journey} from Tokyo as I had to stay ^{Tokyo} behind in Japan to negotiate regarding currency notes etc. for the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. I returned to Singapore by the end of December 1943. From there ^{immediately} I was asked to accompany Netaji to Andamans. We left for Andamans on 21st of December and stayed there for 3 days. Civil ^{but security & law enforcement was maintained by the Japanese} administration was handed over to us. From there we returned to Bangkok where stayed for two or three days as State guests of Thai Government. Then ^{we} we proceeded to Rangoon. We reached Rangoon on the 5th or 6th of January 1944 and established our headquarters there. ^{we} I organised the headquarters of the Azad Hind Government in Rangoon. At that time, the INA troops from Singapore ^{has begun} were beginning to arrive in Rangoon; some of them were still on their way. Later on, the Azad Hind troops were sent to the front-line. The Rani of Jhansi regiment was also organised. I am not aware of the full details of the military operations but I know that INA participated in the battle of Imphal. By that time, we had moved our advanced headquarters of the Provisional Govt. of Azad Hind to ^{organised Azad Hind Dal and} Maymyo. We made arrangements for taking over ^{areas in India that were liberated as soon as} civil administration of such liberated areas. ^{Imphal fell & we occupied it. Some went with our staff from Rangoon} from Rangoon we went to ^{Maymyo} Maymyo. Then Netaji asked a group of us to go to the central front, Chamo, and we (Major Genl. Chatterjee, myself and a number of others) started with some ration for our troops and after several days track, we arrived at Tamu. This was sometime in ^{Apr} May/June 1944. After inspecting the fighting conditions of the front line troops we returned to Tamu and to ^{Maymyo} Maymyo. We reported the condition of our troops to Netaji. Conditions were not satisfactory and we tried to make whatever arrangements we could. From ^{Maymyo} Maymyo Netaji returned to Rangoon. We followed Netaji after some time.

As a result of the setback that the Azad Hind Fauj and the Japanese had received on Imphal front, the position was reviewed by Netaji in a Cabinet meeting. It was decided to reorganise the Cabinet so that the future war could be prosecuted more efficiently. Consequently, ^a the War Council was appointed by Netaji..

From 18th October to 23rd October, 1944, the first anniversary of the establishment of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind was celebrated ^{in Rangoon} with great enthusiasm and large funds were collected. Up till that time, Netaji was still in an optimistic mood and was determined to continue the struggle to the bitter end. He was confident that the Japanese would be able to hold ~~out~~ ^{on} in Burma.

In view of certain changes that had taken place in the Government of Japan, Netaji went to Tokyo to have consultations with them for the future prosecution of the war. Netaji was not getting as much aid from the Japanese as he expected. He was of the opinion that the Japanese, being in a bad way themselves, were not able to give all the ^{in supplies needed} aid ~~he expected~~.

Netaji left for Tokyo on ^{or about} 25th October 1944. The following officers, as far as I remember, accompanied him to Tokyo:-

General M.Z. Kiani, ^{Gen. Chatterjee,}
Col. Habibur Rehman, and
Major Abid Hasan.

I did not accompany Netaji as at that time I had been deputed to undertake a tour of ~~Nipong~~, Central and South China, Philippines and Indo-China in furtherance of the programme of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind for the total mobilisation of (men, money and material) ~~and~~ resources of Indians in the Far East. In accordance with the instructions ~~contained in that letter~~, I visited Saigon and among other places Shanghai. While I was still in Shanghai, Netaji passed through that city ~~while~~ on his way back ^{from} to Tokyo. I met him. From the talk I had with him, I gathered that the things were not very hopeful ~~and that~~ Netaji was not hopeful about the successful outcome of the war so far as the Japanese were concerned. From Shanghai I went to Tokyo ^{in Jan/Feb 1945}. At that time Netaji was visualising some change in his future plans. With that object in view, he told me to proceed to Tokyo to sound the Japanese if they would help us in establishing direct contacts with the Soviet representative in Tokyo and also to ~~find out~~ ^{report} my assessment of the situation. ^{In Tokyo I met several} After meeting Netaji in ~~Shanghai I xxx left for Tokyo after a few days~~ ^{high officials including foreign minister}. From my talks with the Japanese I found some of them who were in responsible positions ^{were in somewhat} in a bit pessimistic mood although they would not openly admit. I ~~had also met the foreign Minister~~. I was advised by my friends in the Japanese Government particularly the Home Minister of Japan, Mr. Uzawa, that it would serve no

by my old friend

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They were probably afraid that by our direct contact with Russians, their secrets ^{of} actual position may become known to the Soviet.

useful purpose ^{to} ~~by~~ trying to contact the Soviet Ambassador in Tokyo. I returned to Bangkok via Taihoku, accompanied by my eldest daughter. ^{who wanted to join Rani Ghauri Regiment} At Saigon I was told of the withdrawal of the Japanese from Rangoon and ^{also} that Netaji was on his way to Bangkok. I flew to Bangkok where I awaited the arrival of Netaji. ^{after my arrival,} ~~on the third or fourth day,~~ Netaji arrived.

Continued.

Two or three days after my arrival

at Bangkok, Netaji ^{arrived with others} reached Bangkok. He asked me

He enquired about the position in Japan and other matters. I told him that we were getting ready the currency notes. I also told him that I had formed an impression that the Japanese higher circles were not very hopeful about the successful outcome of the war. After that in the course of a few days, I gave him all details of my talks with the German Ambassador and with my Japanese friends. I also told him that I tried through my Japanese friends to contact the Soviet Embassy but I was told by my friends that no useful purpose would be served by establishing contacts with the Soviet Embassy.

Question. When you tried to contact the Russian Embassy in Tokyo in November or December 1944, under instructions of Netaji, it appears that the Japanese obstructed your doing so, why did you feel bound down by what the Japanese felt. You were an independent Government. Why did you not contact the Russian Ambassador direct without referring the matter to the Japanese Govt.

Answer. In the first place, we did not have any direct contact with the representatives of countries other than Axis powers and those who were fighting for freedom in Asia like Thailand, ^{Barma, etc.} China. If we wanted to establish contact with the Soviet Ambassador in Tokyo, it would have been discourteous to go straight to the Soviet Ambassador without consulting or informing the Japanese Government because we were conducting our war against England in co-operation and with the help of the Japanese. In the third place, we knew that there was no love lost between the Japanese and the Soviet Union although ~~there was a~~ diplomatic relation ^{existed} between them. However, taking any step to contact the

Soviet Ambassador over the head of the Japanese Government might have been interpreted by the Japanese Government as an unfriendly act and also as a conspiracy against them. ^{We} ~~He~~, therefore, thought it fit to ^{try to establish contact through} ~~receive their help in establishing~~ ~~them~~ ^{their} contact with the Soviet Embassy to avoid any misunderstanding between ourselves and the Japanese.

Question: When you gave the report of the Japanese unwillingness to let you contact the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo, what was Netaji's reactions?

Answer: Netaji felt that if we did not want to commit suicide and to give up the fight for freedom completely, we must continue our efforts to establish contact with the Soviet Union.

Efforts to contact the Soviet Union were continued. As I had learnt during my visit to Shanghai that ~~the~~ Ho Chi Min's party of Viet-Nam was in contact with the Chinese communists and as I was also informed that the agents of the Chinese communists ^S were also present in Chuking, ⁿ the then capital of the Koumintong Government, I suggested to Netaji that there might be some possibility of establishing contact with the Soviet or the Chinese communists ^S through their ~~Viet-Namese~~ Viet-Namese revolutionaries in Indo-China.

After some discussion, Netaji agreed ~~in~~ that I should go to ^{Hanoi in} north Viet Nam (Dr. Ho Chi Min's headquarters were at that time at Hanoi).

~~as~~ It was decided ~~xxxxxxx~~ that ~~the~~ League's work be divided into ~~two~~ parts in Indo-China

Col. Chatterjee being in charge of organisation and collecting funds in South Viet Nam and myself being in charge of North Viet Nam. Netaji also told me that he had instructed Col. Chatterjee to ^{continue} ~~persist in~~ our efforts at contacting the Soviet through the Japanese sources. Col. Chatterjee was accordingly instructed to do this through F.M. Count Terauchi's headquarters at Dalat. I do not know whether Col. Chatterjee was able to do anything in that respect. When I was in Tokyo in February/March 1945 I also met Mr. Shigemitsu, then Foreign Minister. I did not discuss this subject with him.

On the conclusion of these discussions with Netaji, I was ordered to proceed to Hanoi. I proceeded ^{ed} to Hanoi via Saigon sometime towards the end of June 1945. I had to spend one month in Saigon because Col. Chatterjee ^{said he} was ^{having} some difficulty in collecting funds at Saigon. ^{and wanted me to help him.} ~~I helped him in doing so.~~ I reached Hanoi on 31st of July 1945 and I proceeded with my preparations to establish the headquarters of the League there. I collected all the Indians in a meeting held in a Cinema Hall and addressed them and told them that we needed their co-operation in money as well as in other ways because our fight had to be continued. The office of the League was opened in the building which was a shop of a Muslim Indian on Rue Paul Bert.

Some funds were collected. When I came to
 In Hanoi, I met few ^{a Vietnamese} youngmen who were revolutionaries.
~~They~~ ^{They} ~~who had first~~ ^{did not} ~~trusted~~ us and said that we
 were the tools of the Japanese. However,
 after some ~~talk~~ talks and discussions they ^{began}
~~were persuaded~~ to believe that we were not
 puppets in the hands of the Japanese militarists
 but we were fighting genuinely for our freedom
 and after that they became ~~firm~~ friends.
 Slowly I tried to ascertain whether they had
 any connections with China and I came to know
 that they had some friends in Chuking and Nanning.
~~To I tried to make them feel that my ideas~~
~~on the border of China. Gradually after knowing~~
~~on politics were not anti-marxist and that I~~
~~that they were marxists, I tried to make them~~
~~appreciated many aspects of their ideology.~~
~~feel that I had a communist leaning and later~~
~~I gradually revealed to one or two of them that~~
~~suggested to them that I wanted to contact the~~
 communists in China because I said I wanted to
 join hands with them to fight against imperialism
 and Fascism ^{and for that I wanted even to go to China.} ~~alike~~. Through their efforts, I was
 able to get a youngman who knew Chuking and when
 I promised to meet all his expenses including the
 cost of clothing etc. He agreed to go and carry
 my message to their friends and to bring their
 reply. This boy left Hanoi only two ^{or three} days
 before the surrender of the Japanese which came to
 me as a complete surprise. ^{I do not know if he ever}
^{went to Chuking & returned. I never met him after that.}
 I informed Netaji of my arrival in Hanoi.
 There was no communication with ^{him} ~~me~~ other than this.
 Our ultimate ~~aim~~ aim was to have our headquarters
 in Manchuria by the time the Japanese surrendered
 and the war came to an end ~~between the Anglo-~~
~~Americans and the Japanese.~~ I had a feeling that
 when the defeat of the Japanese became imminent,

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decide to

Russians would declare war against the Japanese in order to have a favourable position at Peace Conference; and, if we were in Manchuria at that time, we would allow the Soviet to capture us and hold us as their prisoners. I thought that once we were their prisoners, we would ^{gradually} be able to persuade them to consider us not their enemies but genuine fighters for freedom of India. This feeling was also shared by Netaji. This aspect was ~~also~~ discussed by us at Bangkok before I left for Hanoi. Netaji and myself had agreed that after the war, the alliance between the Anglo-Americans and the Soviets would not last long; and, if India was not free by that time, we might persuade the Russians to help us in liberating our country.

Japanese surrender came unexpectedly early. We had expected that they would be able to continue their resistance for at least another six months. Although the Japanese had surrendered, there was no change in our original plan to continue the struggle for India's freedom, *if possible*.

When I heard between the 18th and the 20th August from the Japanese sources that Netaji was leaving or had left for Tokyo I tried my best according to our plan to get some transport from the Japanese to take me to the Manchurian side and meet Netaji there, but the Japanese did not help me. I felt that although I was told that Netaji's

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destination was Tokyo, I was confident that he was acting according to his original plan and was proceeding ^{ultimately} to Manchuria. ~~because~~ I hoped either to rejoin him ^{in Manchuria} ~~there~~ or to reach there earlier to make arrangements for his reception because I had travelled widely in Manchuria and North China in 1938, and I felt that I would be able to do something there although I had made no previous arrangements this time.

On or about the 20th, Col. Pritam Singh, Col. Gulzara Singh, Abid Hasan, Col. Chatterjee, Mr. Thivy and Mr. Das arrived in Hanoi by air. Col. Chatterjee was accompanied by his ADC Lt. Prannath. They arrived in Hanoi in two batches. The first consisted of Col. Pritam Singh, Col. Gulzara Singh, Shri Debnath Das and Abid and the second batch of Col. Chatterjee, Mr. Thivy and Lt. Prannath. I was at that time staying with some other Japanese officials in a big building which is now the Ministry of Communications. All of us put up in the same house for a few days. ~~There were some other Japanese staying with me.~~ ^{Japanese friends} They were not very happy about ^{my} ~~other colleagues~~ ^{their} being accommodated in that house. After a few days I rented two other houses and we moved from the previous building to relieve the Japanese of their anxiety. I was told by the first party that Netaji had left Saigon for Tokyo. From my talk with them, I

gathered that up to Saigon some of them had come with Netaji. Later due to difficulty in getting accommodation in the plane only Col. Habibur Rehman and Mr. Ayer were to accompany Netaji, ~~but~~ finally Mr. Ayer was also left out with arrangements with the Japanese that he would follow, and only Col. Rehman accompanied Netaji. These friends who were left behind came to Hanoi. They were in a disappointed mood having been left behind. When they learnt that I was trying to get a plane to take me to Manchuria, ^{Some of them} ~~they~~ expressed their desire to accompany me. ^{On the day they arrived} ~~while~~ I was talking with them in my drawing room, suddenly the news came from some Japanese controlled Radio Station about 6 or 7 P.M. that Netaji's plane ^(Taipei) had crashed at Taihoku and that Netaji was dead. No further details were given. The news gave a great shock to all of us but afterwards ^{most of us} ~~we~~ began to feel that the report might not be true. I felt so because of my knowledge of the plan of Netaji to go to Manchuria. I felt that this might be ^a ~~a~~ camouflage to keep the mind of the enemies from following him. From subsequent Radio broadcast I could gather some more details according to which I learnt that Col. Rehman was with him but he was saved and

Netaji died in the same hospital. The broadcast which I heard originally had stated that the plane crash had taken place at Taihoku (also known as Taipei), the capital of Formosa.

The Japanese were unable to make any arrangements for our transport to Manchuria and ^{we} were held up in Hanoi. We were in a state of suspense because ^{we} were not sure whether the news about the plane crash was correct. Later ^{when} we shifted to the two newly rented houses ^{and} ~~we~~ started living there, ~~Then after some time~~ we started planning future course of action. Some of us thought that we might go to China through land route, some of us thought we might go to Thailand through land route. But nothing was finally decided. I had a car in Hanoi with me which belonged to the IIL and some people thought that because the car was there, we could hire ^{another} truck and all of us cross ^{to} the border in Chinese territory. But ^{when} we were told that the journey was not safe and there was danger of our being robbed and killed, ~~this~~ frightened some of us ~~who were enthusiastic about it~~ and the idea was given us. Then again when we heard that Indo-China was divided into two parts for the sake of occupation, so far as I remember, ~~south of 18 parallel~~ ^{at} to be occupied by the British forces ^{in South by the} and North Indo China to be ^{by the} under Chinese ^{in the north} occupation. Under these circumstances, it was decided by all of us that we should remain in the territory that would be occupied by the Chinese forces because we felt that National ^{ist} Chinese Govt. ~~of the~~ occupation troops might be more sympathetic towards us in their treatment than the British.

Lo Han

At last, the Chinese troops arrived in Hanoi in September, and the Chinese Commander-in-Chief was General ~~Louhan~~ ^{Lo Han}. After he had established his headquarters at Bao Dai Palace, I tried to contact him through ~~the~~ a ~~xxxxxxx~~ Chinese Army officer whom I used to meet in different places in the city. After some negotiations General ~~Lo Han~~ at last invited ^{us} ~~me~~ to meet him at the Place. So far as I remember General Chatterjee and some others ^{went} ~~were~~ with me. So far as I ~~started~~ ^{started by telling him as to} remember I ~~told him~~ who we were and requested him to help us in going to Delhi. I told him that as we were fighting against his Allies, the British, we were prepared to ~~face~~ ^{be arrested} the consequences but we wanted to be ~~arrested~~ ^{sent to} and delivered in Delhi, and not outside India. General ~~Lo Han~~ ^{me as to} asked what did we do that he should arrest us. I told him that I fought against his Allies during the war. He asked "Did you fight against us." I said "No," Netaji's instructions were that ^{if} we ~~xxxx~~ had to face the Chinese army we should either withdraw or surrender because the Chinese were not our enemies." He then suggested "But you were with the Japanese, our enemies." I said, "Yes, that was the most unfortunate part of the whole drama. We were with your enemies and you were with ours. But your Excellency knows that neither we nor you were fighting either for the Japanese or for the British. We were fighting for our own ^{respective} countries." At this he laughed and said "you are right. I am not going to arrest anyone of

you. You are as free in Viet Nam as anybody else. You can do whatever you like so long as you ~~are~~ abide by the ~~land~~ of the land."

I told him that although it was very kind of His Excellency, the British who had occupied South Indo China might come and arrest us. He replied that so long as his ~~force~~ ^{Troops were} in occupation of North Indo China, no British or American had any right to come and touch anybody without his permission, "unless my Government ask me to hand you over to the British, I will not do, In the ~~Meantime~~, if you want to go away to some other place, you are at liberty to do so."

I suggested that the only place where we could think of going was China but we ~~can~~ ^{could} think of doing so only if the Commander-in-Chief agreed and helped us in reaching China safely. He said that he could not take any direct action himself but he would see that nobody

obstructed us in our going there. ~~After~~ ^{Later we discussed the question among} the meeting again, there was a talk amongst us ~~ourselves~~ whether we should go to China or not. In

the hope of going to China, many of us ~~had~~ ^{had} converted the local currency into ~~Indo~~ Chinese dollars.

~~but nothing happened.~~ ^{But} we could come to no agreement as a result of our discussions, because we felt that it was unsafe to undertake such a journey because of ~~lawlessness~~ ^{reported} on the border between Viet Nam and China. This was in the month of September or October.

Later Das escaped to Bangkok. He wanted some money which ^I gave him.

I was not too keen to go ~~last~~ into China as I had my doubts about Netaji having safely arrived in Manchuria because he had no contact with anybody there. I did not consider the possibility of Japanese helping Netaji to go to Manchuria.

any action to help us.
I knew that they were adamant on this point. *and after armistice they were too scared to take* So I felt that if Netaji were alive, he might have been kept in hiding either in Formosa or in Japan by the Japanese.

Then towards the middle of December 1945 a British Military Mission under Col. T. Wilson arrived in Hanoi. The Chinese Commander-in-Chief very kindly indirectly informed me about their arrival. After a few days, Mr. Kewal Ram, a Sindhi merchant of Hanoi came to me and informed me that Col. Wilson, the head of the British Military Mission, wanted to see me at his headquarters. I asked him to go and tell him that till then I was a Minister of the Azad Hind Government and he ^{as} was a Col. in the British Army. Therefore, he should have known, my rank was much higher. If he wanted to meet me it was his duty to come to me and not mine to go to him. If and when I was arrested and I was a prisoner, then I would be entirely at his mercy and would obey his orders as a prisoner but not before I was arrested, Next day, i.e. on the 20th of December, Kewal Ram came back and told me that

Col. Wilson had agreed to call on me and had asked for time. I told Kewal Ram that next day i.e. on the 21st I would receive him at 4-39 P.M. and I would be glad if he came and had tea with me. Col. Wilson came with his revolver in his belt. I received him and we had tea together. Although all other members of my party were in the house, only Col. Chatterjee was with him during the discussion. He told me that he had come to arrest me. I told him that there were only two conditions, one that we all would be taken together, and second that all of us would be taken to Delhi and not to any other place. He said that he would send a message immediately to his headquarters, perhaps in Saigon or in Singapore and would let me know on the following day. We agreed to meet again on the following day at 4 P.M. In the meantime, I contacted my Viet Nameese friends and I informed them on that on the 22nd we were going to be arrested and asked them to broadcast on their radio thrice that we were arrested and that we ~~were~~ were being taken to Delhi. Next day at 4, two cars came from Col. Wilson with another officer with a message that Col. Wilson was waiting in another place for me and had asked all of us to come there and meet and talk and that he had received a message from his headquarters. We took the car and followed their instructions. Col. Wilson was waiting at the shop of

Kewal Ram. Then we were taken to Col. Wilson's headquarters where we were arrested and the Chinese had informed the British that we were to be handed over to the British. Next morning we were flown to Saigon and then to Singapore, where we were put in Pearl jail and interrogated after one or two months. I was released at Singapore on 31st March 1946. Then I contacted Mr. Chettur, who was Agent of Govt. of India in Singapore and asked him to repatriate me to India. This was done 2½ months later.

When the party of my friends came to Hanoi, I learnt perhaps from Mr. Das that a small box containing jewellery worth so far as I ~~know~~ can surmise, not exceeding 1½ lakhs was with Netaji.

About Netaji, my frank opinion is that if Netaji is alive, he would have come out or would have sent information to us, and so far as I know no one received any communication from him. I always think over the question particularly when I see some reports in the papers that he is alive. I always ask myself if he is alive, why he should be in hiding. If his purpose is to come to India with some political objective, he knows that today if he comes back or he had come back since 1947, he would ^{be} received with open arms because he would a great asset to our country at this juncture and during the last five years. Some people who might think that he is not satisfied with the present Govt. and therefore he might be coming at some hour or coming in order to create an armed revolt in India, I feel very

disappointed at this suggestions because after all apart from anything else it is an insult to a great man like Netaji if we think for a moment that if he comes with a foreign army to invade India, I think the whole of India will be shocked at it and he will fall in the stream of the people from one corner of India to the other. If he is in disagreement with the policy of the Government as it is quite possible he should be, he knows that today India has more freedom to preach to one's ideology than ever before and I am sure Netaji would have realised it that he will have much greater chances of success in winning over the people to his side if he had come and appealed to the people and had shown the faults of the Govt. Thinking all these things, I feel that I will be insulting the intelligence and the greatness of that great leader and patriot if I think that he could even dream if he is alive of coming with the aid of the foreign army for he would come to create an armed revolt in India, it appears that his political ideas and objective is not in line with the present policy of the programme of the Government but I am sure if he were alive, he would do it as a great leader to achieve his end and not by creating disorder and chaos in India particularly at this juncture when we have so many factions and parties inside India who try to create disorder and when we have so many enemies on our border. ~~what~~ However, if Netaji were alive, nobody

would be more happier than myself because I have remained devoted and truthful to him since I came in contact with him. Even during the war at times I said things against Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru on Radio which in ordinary times I would never think of saying, but today I feel confident that Netaji if he is alive, would be a great asset and a tower of strength to us in India.

Chakrabarty
3/5/56.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE FOR RAJASTHAN
'AT JAIPUR BENCH JAIPUR

ORDER

Nand Lal Sharma

Vs. Chief Secretary, State of
Rajasthan and another

S.B. Civil Writ Petition No.902/1984

under Articles 226 and 51 of the Constitution
of India.

DATE OF ORDER

:::

JANUARY 18, 1986

PRESENT

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.N. BHARGAVA

Shri Nand Lal Sharma, petitioner in person

Shri N.L. Pareek, Addl. GA

Shri B.P. Gupta, Standing Counsel for
Union of India.

BY THE COURT:

This is a writ petition filed by Shri Nand Lal Sharma on a very important national issue asking this court to order for starting an open judicial enquiry on international level to know about the whereabouts of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, a national hero, and further to order to set him free, if he is still confined as a war criminal in any country. The petition was filed on 26.7.84. Along with the writ petition, an application was also filed that this case should be put up before a full bench for admission. When the case came up before Hon'ble the Chief Justice, he was pleased to order that the case may be put up

for admission before me. The petitioner also filed an application giving the details of documents which he wanted to be summoned from the non petitioner No.2, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Union of India and he also filed some additional documents on 27th August, 1984. Notices to show cause were issued as to why the writ petition should not be admitted and notices of the said two applications were also sent to the non petitioners. On 15th March, 1985, Shri B.P. Gupta, Standing Counsel for the Union of India was called for and was directed to file reply of the writ petition and within one month. Time was again sought by Shri Gupta on 8.5.85 and the case was fixed for 8th July, 1985. Thereafter, I was nominated for Jodhpur and the case was not listed before any other bench inspite of application for early hearing filed by the petitioner. The case came up before me on 18th October, 1985; till then, no reply was filed by either the State of Rajasthan or the Union of India. Shri B.P. Gupta, learned Standing Counsel for the Union of India submitted that he has received no instructions, though he had intimated the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs. The case was ordered to be put up on 4.11.85 and the non petitioners were permitted to file reply before that date. Again on 19.11.1985, Shri Gupta submitted that he has received no instructions till then, inspite of written communication. Learned Deputy Government Advocate submitted that he has received instructions not to conduct the writ petition on behalf of the State of Rajasthan.

The petitioner wanted time to file some additional affidavits and some interrogatories. The petitioner filed some more documents and also produced two printed books (1) NETAJI AZAD HIND FAUL AND AFTER, BY R.M. KASLIWAL AND (2) AN INDIAN FREEDOM FIGHTER IN JAPAN, MEMOIRS OF A.M. NAIR. The case was taken up finally for arguments on 4.12.85. Shri B.P. Gupta still submitted that he has received no instructions and the Additional Government Advocate also reiterated that he had no instructions in the said matter. Hence, the petitioner was heard ex-parte in person and order was reserved.

The petitioner in this writ petition has submitted that he was a close colleague of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and played an important role for his exit from the prison and escaping out of India. In his petition, the petitioner has further submitted that two Commissions, namely, Shah Navaj Khan Commission and Justice Khosla Commission, appointed earlier by the Government of India to enquire into the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, could not come to any definite conclusion for the various reasons mentioned in the writ petition and according to the petitioner, the story that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in a plane crash in Formosa was a fabricated one as the co-passengers who were supposed to have been travelling in that plane have lived for long periods after the reported accident and the supposed death and the story that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose fled away from his safety,

deserting his people, could not be believed. The petitioner has also referred to the rumour that Netaji was confined in Neuremburg Fort (West Germany) as a war criminal and after his brain-wash, he was to be released. In his application dated 6.8.84, he has given a long list of documents which he wanted the non petitioner No.2 to produce so that some definite conclusion could be reached. In that application, he further assured that he will be submitting list of Indian and foreign witnesses who are willing to get their statements recorded and to cooperate if fresh enquiry was ordered. He also produced some extracts of the diary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. He has also produced a newspaper Rajasthan Patrika (English Edition), dated 18th August, 1985 containing an Article concerning Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. He also produced an affidavit of Dr.R.M. Kasliwal to the effect that whatever he had written in his book 'Netaji, Azad Hind Fauz and after' is correct and true to the best of his personal knowledge and belief and specially in Preface on pages between (iii) and (iv) and in Epilogue on pages 69 and to 73. Another book produced by the petitioner namely, An Indian Freedom Fighter in Japan, Memoirs of A.M. Nair containing a Chapter No.28, the Disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from pages 272 to 284, in which the whole episode has been discussed in detail and doubts have been expressed as to whether Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died on account of plane crash, as alleged.

I have considered the whole matter. It cannot be denied that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was a great national hero and a great freedom fighter. He had led strong revolutionary freedom movement in India and commands a great respect from the people of India. It is true that the Government of India was also concerned in this matter and appointed two Commissions namely Shah Nawaj Khan Commission and Justice Khosla Commission to enquire into the whole matter regarding the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose but the people were not satisfied with the manner in which these Commissions functioned and there has been demand from the public that some other Commission should be appointed to go into the whole question afresh and it is in that direction only that the present writ petition has been filed. Notices were issued both to the State of Rajasthan and the Union of India, but it is very unfortunate that none of them have cared to file any reply of the writ petition and produce relevant material before this court to come to some definite conclusion. Either because the Union of India is indifferent to this question as the matter had already been enquired more than once or the Government of India itself is not satisfied with the reports of the two Commissions and therefore, does not want to contest the writ petition which has been filed for ordering a fresh enquiry into the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Since no reply has been filed on behalf of the respondents

and no relevant documents have been produced in the court, it is not possible to come to a definite conclusion that the two earlier Commissions did not hold the enquiry/^{properly} or there were some inherent improbabilities. I do not think it proper to order a fresh enquiry without examining the whole matter which cannot be done without the assistance of the Union of India.

In the facts and circumstances, I think it proper to issue a direction to the non petitioner No.2 to look into the matter dispassionately and hear the petitioner in person patiently and examine the documents and ^{the} evidence that he wants to produce in support of his contention, and then come to a definite conclusion. In my opinion, six months time will be sufficient for the Union of India to examine the whole matter afresh with open mind and if necessary, invite public in general to produce material whatever it want in this connection before coming to a prima facie decision as to whether fresh Commission is necessary or not. Petitioner should submit all his papers, evidence and other material before Government of India and time of six months will start from the date the material is filed by the petitioner.

The writ petition, is therefore, disposed of accordingly.

Sd. S.N. Bhargava

686/EAD/90

286
G-495/EOM/90

7/2

Phone : 273532

ALL INDIA NETAJI MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

82, DARYA GANJ, NEW DELHI - 110002

Ref. No. NLE/ /1990

Dated 9 Jan: 90

President

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee

Ex-M. P.

Phone : 3323967

Am-
Shri I.K.Gujral,
Minister of External Affairs,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

Dear Sir,

Jai Hind. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the minutes of the meeting of Freedom Fighters (incl. I.N.A.) and fraternity of Netaji, held on 26th June, 1989.

73(EA)
In view of the present situation it has become necessary to bring to India the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which have been lying in Japan for the last 45 years.

I, along with the undermentioned members of the memorial committee wish to discuss the issue with you on the date and time that may suit your convenience:-

1. Comrade Ram Kishan, ex-C.M. Punjab;
2. Chaudhry Ranbir Singh, ex-M.P.;
3. Colonel P.S. Raturi, I.N.A.;
4. Capt: S.S. Yadava, I.N.A.;
5. Shri V.L. Sunder Rao;
6. " Jagat Ram Joshi;
7. " I.S. Bhatia.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,

Sheel Bhadra Yajee
(Sheel Bhadra Yajee)

Ex-M.P.

President A.I., Netaji Memorial,
Committee, New Delhi.

(287) (287)

ALL INDIA NETAJI MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
82, Darya Ganj, New Delhi-110002.-Phone 3273532.

Minutes of the meeting of Freedom Fighters Organisation, held on the 26th June, 1989, at 4 P.M. at Vithal Bhai Patel House, New Delhi-1 under the chairmanship of Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, ex-M.P.

It was discussed in the meeting that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was killed in the Air Crash at Taihaku in Taiwan on the 18th August, 1945. Netaji was confirmed dead by Capt: (Dr.) Taneyoshi Yoshimi, Medical Officer Incharge, Japanese Military Hospital, Nanmon.

Colonel Habib-ur-Rehman, Chief of the Staff of the I.N.A., who was travelling with Netaji, survived, performed last rites and carried the ASHES to Tokyo. In Tokyo the ASHES were received by the Indian Nationals including 40 Tokyo Cadets of the I.N.A. The Priest of RENKOHI temple in Tokyo volunteered to take care of the ashes, where the same have been lying since August, 1945. How shameful is it on our part!

This meeting of freedom fighters is much contrained to say that the Government of India have failed so far to bring the ASHES from Japan to India notwithstanding the fact that the death of Netaji in the Air Crash was confirmed by the two commissions appointed by the Union Government.

This meeting of the Freedom Fighters accepts and places on record that INDIA WON HER FREEDOM BECAUSE OF THE STRATEGY OF NETAJI. Netaji was the Head of Provisional Government of Azad Hind. The Provisional Government proclaimed by Netaji was recognised by 9 sovereign states of the world. The Govt. had its territory and well equipped Army. Besides Netaji had been twice President (Rashtrapati) of Indian National Congress.

In view of the above this meeting calls upon the Government of India to arrange to bring the ASHES of NETAJI from JAPAN to INDIA at the earliest possible with full STATE HONOURS of the HEAD OF A SOVEREIGN STATE and build a befitting MEMORIAL in NEW DELHI to enable INDIAN NATION to pay due homage to this GREAT SON OF INDIA, who liberated MOTHER INDIA.

This meeting further decides to form an All India Netaji Memorial Committee under the leadership of Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Ex-M.P. and an old close associate of Netaji to co-operate with the Government of India in bringing the ashes and building a Memorial of NETAJI and Martyrs of the I.N.A.

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S. S. Yadava
Secy.
10.7.90

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विदेश मंत्री
भारत

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INDIA

New Delhi-110011

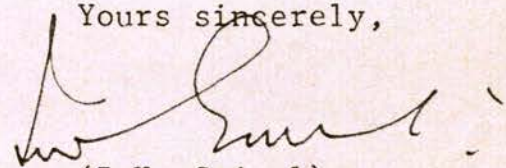
January ³¹/₂₅, 1990

Dear Shri Yajeeji,

Thanks very much for your letter No.NMC/1990 dated January 9, 1990, enclosing therewith a copy of the minutes of the meeting of Freedom Fighters and fraternity of Netaji, held on 26th June, 1989.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(I.K. Gujral)
s/c

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee,
Ex-M.P.,
President A.I.,
Netaji Memorial Committee,
82, Darya Ganj,
New Delhi-110002.

JS (EA)
On file. We shall have to brief EAM on this.

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US (EA) Shri YADAV-
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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
EAST ASIA DIVISION

QUESTION OF THE RETURN OF NETAJI'S ASHES FROM JAPAN

Netaji died in a hospital at Taipei (Taiwan) on 18.08.1945. Two days later, his body was cremated and the ashes carried to Tokyo sometime end-August or beginning September 1945. It appears the ashes were kept at the residence of Shri A M Sahai (ex-Minister of the Netaji Cabinet) in Tokyo where ceremonies were held for 11 days after which the ashes were taken to the Renkoji Buddhist Temple in the Nakano area of Tokyo where they are maintained to this day.

2. The Government of India had appointed an Enquiry Committee in 1956 headed by the late Shah Nawaz Khan and including Netaji's elder brother Shri S C Bose. The Committee submitted a report in which the majority opinion was that Netaji met his death in an air crash on 18.08.1945 and that the ashes in the Renkoji Temple were those of Netaji. Shri S.C. Bose dissented from this view. In 1970, a one-man Committee of Justice G.D. Khosla was set up which also concluded that the casket lodged in the Renkoji Temple contained the ashes of Netaji. In January 1982, however, Shri S.C. Bose wrote to the Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi saying that there was no convincing proof that the so-called ashes were genuine.

3. In recent months, two persons, Shri L Joychandra Singh and Shri Sheel Bhadra Yaji who have been associated with Netaji have been mounting a campaign to bring back the ashes of Netaji from Japan. Shri Joychandra Singh says he has been in touch with various organisations associated with Netaji including the Netaji Academy in Tokyo. He also says that Shri S.C. Bose, the brother of Netaji who had, so far objected to the return of the ashes is no more, having expired some four years ago. His son, Shri Arvind Bose has entrusted responsibility for this issue to his cousin Dr. Sisir Bose. This gentleman had written on 26 September 1985 to the Prime Minister stating that he agreed with the resolution adopted by the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation implying that he had no objection to the return of the remains of Netaji to India and the erection of a befitting national memorial in his honour in Delhi.

4. The only vocal objection in recent months has been the Netaji Subhash Research Foundation of Jaipur which contests the veracity of the ashes in Japan and is opposed to their return. This Foundation wants a fresh inquiry into Netaji's disappearance and has approached the Rajasthan High Court to direct the Government of India to do so.

5. The ashes have been lying in Japan since 1945. Government provides an annual grant for the maintenance of the Temple. Return of the ashes are being demanded for the following reasons:

a. Moral obligation of the nation to honour one of the heroes of the national movement.

b. The chief priest of the Renkoji Temple to whom the ashes were handed over died in 1979. There is no guarantee that his son the new priest will maintain the same reverence

c. Leading members of the Netaji Subhash Academy have also either expired or aged. When they pass from the scene there may not be anyone to care for the ashes

6. Our present view is that notwithstanding the considerations adduced above which are considered valid, a consensus has not developed in favour of bringing the ashes back to India. We had considered mooted the suggestion perhaps by the early part of 1990. So far, however, this has not been done.

7. Just prior to the visit of Prime Minister Kaifu, the Japanese Embassy had raised this question informally with me in order to ascertain our reaction. I had indicated to them that there was need for us to build up a certain amount of public opinion in view of the fact that there are strong feelings among a section of the public about the facts surrounding the death of Netaji.

8. I was informed this evening by the Minister in the Japanese Embassy that the Vice Minister for Cabinet Affairs in the Japanese Government who will be accompanying Prime Minister Kaifu had taken up the matter with the Embassy again and wished to raise the matter with an appropriate person (preferably a public figure - MOS(EA) who could explain the political implications of the return of the ashes.) The Japanese have apparently been facing a certain amount of pressure of their own. Some former Minister (Mr. Fujio) who was connected with the Renkoji Temple had been insisting with Vice Minister Oshima that he should discuss this matter outside the formal talks conducted by the Prime Minister.

9. I have responded in the interim with the suggestion that it may be possible for the Vice Minister to discuss this with the Foreign Secretary. I indicated that MOS (EA) may not be available during the visit of the Japanese PM.

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F.S.

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JS (EA)

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
EAST ASIA DIVISION

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VK Nambiar
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AS(EA)

Netaji's ashes to be brought to India

From Our Special Representative

NEW DELHI, Thursday — The remains of the ashes of Netaji from Azad Hind Fauz personnel and the Rankoji temple in Tokyo, Mr V. L. Sunder Rao, a member of the All-India Netaji Memorial Committee, said today.

He said in a statement that during his recent tour of Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore the former INA person had suggested that a worthy memorial to Netaji and Azad Hind Fauz should be raised in front of the Red Fort, Gateway of India, in the Parade Grounds or nearabout Raj Ghat.

"These people whom I met in Bangkok, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur have fully confirmed the air crash accident and the death of Netaji. They have organized meetings and paid their homage to Netaji when the accident was announced. They never doubted the air crash news and none of them claimed that Netaji is alive. On the other hand, they were sorry for the Indian Government and Indian people for not taking any initiative to raise the memorials for the martyrs who sacrificed their lives during the freedom struggle under the Netaji Subhash Bose's leadership. They could not take the initiative because they are living in foreign countries," Mr Rao said.

He also said that if the Indian Government and the Indian people take necessary steps, "we can always expect full cooperation and help from the Governments of these countries and their people. So let us proceed on this assumption and do our best. These are the feelings of our own people who fought in the last battle of our freedom struggle, staking their life and kin, their fortunes and lives and everything in the battlefields, starting from Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Rangoon to liberate their motherland."

The Statesman

4/5/59

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MOST IMMEDIATE

PARLIAMENT QUESTION

No. C/125/1/90-JP

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

...

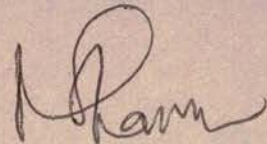
Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.: 8119

To be answered on : 10/5/90

Tabled By : Sh. Sarat Kumar Mandal

Subject: Ashes of Subhash Chander Bose

JS(EA) may kindly see the draft reply for approval.



(Smt. PRIMROSE R. SHARMA)

DS(EA)
5/5/90

o/c

JS(EA)

LOK SABHA

PROVISIONAL STARRED QUESTION DY. NO: 8119

TO BE ANSWERED ON : 10/5/1990

TABLED BY : SH. SANAT KUMAR MANDAL

Subject: Ashes of Subhash Chander Bose.

QUESTION

ANSWER

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

a) whether the ashes of 'Netaji' Subhash Chander Bose kept at the Renkagi Temple in Tokyo (Japan) are propose to be brought to India;

b) whether the All India Netaji Memorial Committee is in touch with the Government in this regard; and

c) if so, reaction of Government in this matter and how long will it take to initiate and process this long-awaited move?

(a), (b) and (c):

Government are aware of the views of various organisations and individuals in the matter, including that of the All India Netaji Memorial Committee who have proposed that the ashes be brought to India from Japan.

Government are of the view that a consensus must be developed on this subject in order to enable the ashes to be brought back to India.

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 8119
TO BE ANSWERED ON : 10/5/1990
TABLED BY : SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL

Subject: Ashes of Subhash Chander Bose

QUESTION

ANSWER

Will the Minister of
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased
to state:

a) whether the ashes of
'Netaji' Subhash Chander Bose
kept at the Rankagi Temple
in Tokyo(Japan) are proposed
to be brought to India;

b) whether the All-India
Netaji Memorial Committee is
in touch with the
Government in this regard;
and

c) if so, reaction of
Government in this matter
and how long will it take
to initiate and process
this long-awaited move?

a) Government are aware of the
various proposals concerning
the question.

(b) & (c):

Government are aware of the views
of various organisations and
individuals who have expressed
interest in the matter, including
the organisation to which the
question refers. Government have
received from time to time various
proposals concerning this question.
The consensus among the differing
views held at present on the subject
would assist Government for
proceeding further.

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 8119

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 8119

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH MAY, 1990

ASHES OF SUBHASH CHANDER BOSE

8119. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of External Affairs विदेश मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ashes of 'Netaji' Subhash Chander Bose kept at the Rankagi Temple in Tokyo (Japan) are proposed to be brought to India;

(b) whether the All-India Netaji Memorial Committee is in touch with the Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, reaction of Government in this matter and how long will it take to initiate and process this long-awaited move?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI I.K. GUJRAL)

विदेश मंत्री

(a) Several proposals in this regard have been received by Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As there are also organisations and individuals who are opposed to such action, Government are of the view that all concerned should come to a consensus in the matter.

अखिल भारतीय सुभाषवादी जनता



All India Subhasbadi Janata

(केन्द्रीय कार्यालय : ५१/१, कालेज स्ट्रीट, कलकत्ता-७०००७३)

७३९९-०५(५०)९०

प्रान्तीय कार्यालय : 1482, Sector 16, Faridabad,

~~XXXXXX तिलक गली, कश्मोरी रोड, दिल्ली-११०००६~~ Haryana, 121

U.P.C

पत्रांक.....

दिनांक 12 May, 1990

Shri I.K.Gujral,
Hon'ble Minister,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block, NEW DELHI - 110011.

AS(SA)

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "J.S. (EA)" and "Yeller".

Sir,

This has reference to the news item appearing in Press on 11th May, '90, about your statement in the Parliament on the previous day that the Government was seeking consensus for bringing to India the so-called ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, presently kept at Renkoji Temple, Japan.

In this regard there have been numerous contradictory statements from the Govt. of India in and outside parliament on the subject and Shri Morarji Desai, former Prime Minister has even stated that the findings of both the commissions of enquiry on the death of netaji were doubtful.

Further, there have been news reports casting doubts on the ashes kept at Renkoji Temple, that the same cannot be those of a human ~~ben~~.

In the light of the above, I would like to suggest that would it not be appropriate to first establish beyond any reasonable doubt, the fact or otherwise, of the death of Netaji, as without such confirmation, the move to bring the ashes from Renkoji Temple may be ~~misconstrued~~ construed as incorrect.

I enclose herewith two pamphlets published by our organisation in 1981, for your perusal, and we will highly appreciate if any fresh proof of Netaji's declared death is supplied to us by your good office.

JAI HIND.

Yours faithfully,
For ALL INDIA SUBHASBADI JANATA

(Signature)

(RAM KISHAN SHARMA)
Acting Secretary.

Encls : As above.

We feel pity for the veteran freedom fighters who have authorised their Working President to provoke the innocent people of India to react sharply against the motive underlining the press-release.

We are still on our toes since the last 19 years to inform the people of India that the founder of Shaulmari Ashram, P.O. Falakata, Dist. Jalpaiguri, whom Major Satya Gupta met and talked on the 5th, 6th & 7th Feb. 1962, is none else than our beloved Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Except issuing evasive statements more than once the Govt. of India and that in West Bengal failed to contradict the findings of Major Satya Gupta by properly disclosing the identity of Sh. Shardanand, the founder of Shaulmari Ashram. This alone is sufficient to reject outright the cock and bull story of the so called plane crash at Taihoku on the 18th Aug., 1945 and the so called ashes kept in the Renkoji Temple, Japan.

Gandhiji himself recorded his categorical denial to the performance of Shradh ceremony of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and no condolence resolution was adopted by the Working Committee of the All India Congress Committee since there was no reason to mourn the so-called reported plane crash. "Dusre kisiki lash jala di hogi" was Gandhiji's remark at that time when he was asked to comment on the so-called ashes.

Col. Habibur Rehman, the last fellow-traveller of Netaji had told Mr. S. A. Ayer that he personally handed over the ashes in an urn

(299) 300

to the priest of Renkoji Temple on the 6th Sept. 1945 (Unto Him a Witness, Pages 111-115). According to the priest himself, the ashes were brought to him in a rectangular urn by one Mr. Ra Murty on the 18th Sept., 1945. More amusing was the report of a few U S. experts who, after necessary analysis of the ashes came to the inference that it might be of some animals and was definitely not of human beings, as reported in the Bengali language daily Jugantar, dated 15th April, 1962.

"We have no direct and precise proof of Netaji's death" was the contents of a letter of Sh. Jawahar Lal Nehru, written in 1962 to Late Suresh Chandra Bose, elder brother of Netaji and dissenting member of the Shah Nawaz Commission.

On the 28th Aug. 1978, while withdrawing the findings of the two Commissions of enquiry, in the light of a motion for a third enquiry commission, the then Prime Minister observed in the Parliament, ".....Reasonable doubts have been cast on the correctness of the conclusions reached in the two reports and various important contradictions reached in the testimony of witnesses have been noticed. Some further contemporary official documentary records have also become available. In the light of these doubts and contradictions, Government finds it difficult to accept that earlier conclusions are decisive....."

The documentary picture 816B of 1964 of Films Division of the Govt. of India had clearly shown Netaji standing by the dead body of Late Sh. Jawahar Lal Nehru.

The Govt. of India retreated their steps at issuing Netaji 'Commemorative' stamps when they refrained themselves from printing 1945 as the year of so-called death of Netaji in those postal stamps, in the wake of Gauhati to Delhi route-march organised by Netaji lovers at that time in 1964. Why then the working President of All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation has been so agile to bring the ashes to this country when no power on earth could dissuade the common people from their conviction that Netaji is still alive in flesh & blood & Majesty ?

Playing carelessly with the wrath of innocent people results in payment of due compensation.

We trust that the Working President would give a second thought to his programme taking necessary lessons from history.

As we are confident that the propagation of Netaji's so called death and the ashes in the Renkoji Temple to be that of Netaji simply nurses and serves the international anti-Netaji force, we call upon the people of India to stand united in protest against the move to observe the Martyrdom Day of Netaji on the 18th Aug., 1981.

"Netaji Zindabad"

Jai Hind !



Printed and Published by :

ALL INDIA SUBHASBADI JANATA

51/1, College Street, CALCUTTA-73.



MARTYRDOM DAY OF NETAJI ?

A HOAX ! A BLUFF ! A CONSPIRACY !

At last the inner motive is let out. The last chessman is played. The Working President of the All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation has released a handout to the Press from his office at 7, Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi-1 on the 14th July last, asking the people of India to celebrate the martyrdom day of Netaji on the ensuing 18th Aug. and has urged upon the Prime Minister of India to arrange for bringing the so-called ashes, kept in the Renkoji Temple, Japan. In that handout the Working President has called upon all the units of the Organisation to hold mass meetings throughout the country on that day demanding fulfilment of the said desire.

The Hindustan Times (Delhi) in its local edition dated 15th July 1981 has covered the news item on its third page.

हमें दुख है कि भारतीय स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों पर जिन्होंने अपने कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष को इस तरह की अपील प्रेस में देकर भोली जनता को गुमराह करने की आज्ञा दी ।

अखिल भारतीय सुभाषवादी जनता पिछले १६ वर्षों से लगातार पूरे जोर के साथ कहती चली आ रही है कि शौलमारी आश्रम, पो०आ० फलाकाटा, जिला जलपाईगुड़ी के प्रतिष्ठाता श्रीमद शारदानन्द जी ही नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस हैं जिनसे कि अपने मेजर सत्यगुप्ता ५, ६, ७ फरवरी १९६२ को मिले और उनसे बातचीत के उपरांत मेजर साहब ने पूरे विश्वास के साथ कहा कि यह और कोई नहीं हमारे प्रिय नेताजी ही हैं । मेजर सत्य गुप्ता के इन बयानों को आज तक केन्द्रीय या तत्कालीन पश्चिमी बंगाल सरकार ने काटा नहीं और न ही शौलमारी आश्रम प्रतिष्ठाता श्रीमद शारदानन्द जी का ठीक परिचय ही दे पाई ।

१८ अगस्त १९४५ के ताईहोकू हवाई अड्डे पर हुए उस तथाकथित हवाई हादसे की कपोल कल्पना और रेंकोजी मन्दिर की अस्थियों की कहानी को झूठा करार देने के लिए इतना ही काफी है कि जब महात्मा गांधी से इस दुर्घटना पर उनकी प्रतिक्रिया जाननी चाही, तब उन्होंने कहा कि 'किसी और की लाश जला दी होगी' । गांधी जी ने ही नेताजी का श्राद्ध मनाने का विरोध किया और इसी कारण कांग्रेस वर्किंग कमेटी ने किसी प्रकार का शोक प्रस्ताव पास नहीं किया ।

१९४५ की उस हवाई यात्रा में नेता जी के अंग-रक्षक सह-यात्री कर्नल हबीब-उर-रहमान ने श्री एस० ए० अय्यर को बताया कि उन्होंने स्वयं यह अस्थियाँ ६, सितम्बर १९४५ को रेंकोजी मन्दिर के पुजारी को सौंपी थीं (Unto Him a Wit-

ness, pages 111-115) किन्तु स्वयं पुजारी के कथानुसार उसके पास वे अस्थियाँ एक राममूर्ति १८ सितम्बर १९४५ को किसी चौकोर बरतन में लाये थे। इससे अधिक दिलचस्प बात १५ अक्टूबर १९६२ को बंगाली दैनिक युगांतर की वह रिपोर्ट है जिसमें कुछ अमरीकी वैज्ञानिकों ने तथा-कथित अस्थियों की वैज्ञानिक जाँच के बाद निर्णय दिया कि निश्चय ही यह किसी मानव की अस्थियाँ नहीं हैं बल्कि किसी जानवर की हो सकती हैं।

स्वर्गीय श्री जवाहर लाल नेहरू ने नेताजी के बड़े भाई श्री सुरेश चन्द्र बोस को १९६२ में लिखे एक पत्र के उत्तर में कहा था कि नेताजी की मृत्यु का सीधा व ठोस प्रमाण हमारे पास नहीं है।

एक तीसरे जाँच कमीशन की मांग को देखते हुए, पिछले दोनों आयोगों की खोजों को वापिस लेते हुए तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री ने २८ अगस्त १९७८ को संसद भवन में कहा था “अनेक गवाहियों में पाई गई विसंगतियों को देखते हुए दोनों कमीशनों के निर्णयों पर उचित भ्रम पैदा होता है। इन भ्रान्तियों और अनेक समकालीन तथ्यों के प्राप्त होने के बाद सरकार के लिए यह कहना मुश्किल होगा कि पिछली खोजें और उनके परिणाम अन्तिम हैं।”

भारत सरकार की फिल्म डिवीजन की १९६४ की डौकुमेन्ट्री फिल्म नं० ८१६ बी में नेताजी जवाहर लाल नेहरू की शव शय्या के पास दिखाए गए हैं।

१९६४ में भारत सरकार नेताजी की समृति में निकाली गई डाक टिकट पर उनके कथित मृत्यु वर्ष १९४५ को छापने से क्यों कतराई?

फिर अखिल भारतीय स्वतंत्रता सेनानी संगठन के कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष रेंकोजी मन्दिर से उन अस्थियों को भारत मंगवाने के लिए इतने उत्सुक क्यों हैं, जबकी संसार की कोई भी ताकत एक जीवित व्यक्ति को मृत घोषित नहीं कर सकती ? उन्हें अपने हित में यह जानना चाहिए कि भोली जनता के क्रोध से खेलने का उचित दंड भुगतना पड़ सकता है।

हमें आशा है कि कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष महोदय अपने घोषित कार्यक्रम पर दोबारा विचार करेंगे।

जैसा कि हम मानते हैं कि नेताजी को तथाकथित मृत्यु का प्रचार और नेताजी का रेंकोजी मन्दिर में रखी गई अस्थियों का दावा नेताजी विरोधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय षडयंत्र का अंग है, अतः हम समस्त भारतवासियों से प्रार्थना करते हैं कि १८ अगस्त १९८१ को नेताजी बलिदान दिवस मनाए जाने के विरोध में संगठित हों।

॥ नेताजी जिंदाबाद ॥

जै हिन्द !



अखिल भारतीय सुभाषवादी जनता,
५१/१, कालेज स्ट्रीट, कलकत्ता-७३, द्वारा प्रकाशित एवं मुद्रित



नेताजी का बलिदान दिवस ?

एक झूठ ! एक धोखा ! एक साजिश !

आखिरकार असलियत प्रगट हो गई । आखरी दाव भी सामने आ ही गया । स्वतंत्रता सेनानी संस्थान, ७ जन्तर मन्तर रोड, नई दिल्ली के कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष की अपील में जो कि १५, जुलाई १९८१ को अंग्रेजी दैनिक हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स में तीसरे पृष्ठ पर छपी है, समस्त भारतीय जनता से कहा गया है कि नेताजी का बलिदान दिवस १८ अगस्त के दिन बड़े जोर-शोर से मनाया जाए साथ ही प्रधानमंत्री से बड़ी जोरदार अपील की गई है कि रेंकोजी मन्दिर (जापान) में रखी नेताजी की तथा-कथित अस्थियों को लालकिले के सामने स्थापित करने के लिए भारत मंगाया जाए ।

Mediation on J&K rejected

NEW YORK, May 12 (PTI) The Finance Minister, Mr Madhu Dandavate, has rejected the mediation of third parties for helping solve the problems between India and Pakistan, saying such mediation would prove detrimental to the interest of both the countries.

Questioned about Pakistan's inviting third parties to ascertain the truth of India's charges regarding Pakistani abetment of terrorism in Kashmir, Mr Dandavate told reporters here on Friday, if third countries were allowed to intervene in any country's internal affairs or in problems with neighbours, it would work to the detriment of both India and Pakistan.

"Therefore we are not in its favour even if Pakistan has demanded it. Pakistan should realise that it would not be in its interest also", he said.

One of the guiding principles of the non-aligned movement was non-interference in the internal affairs of a country and in bilateral relations, he said.

Muslim rule in India was 'misunderstood'

HT Correspondent

Netaji kin's plea to PM on 'ashes'

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI, May 12 Family members of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose have urged Prime Minister V. P. Singh not to allow the "so called ashes" of the illustrious son of India to be brought to the country from Japan.

They are not convinced about Netaji's death in a plane crash and say that the ashes kept in a Japanese temple are not his remains.

In a letter to the Prime Minister, three of Netaji's relatives, Mr Ashoke Nath Bose, Mr Amiya Nath Bose and Mr Subrata Bose have given evidence of why they believe that the "ashes" are not those of Subhas Chandra Bose.

"The Government of India appointed two commissions of inquiry to go into this matter. The Janata Government rejected the findings of both the commissions. The Government of India finally decided that the story of Netaji's death in an air crash cannot be accepted as conclusive" the letter said.

Mr Amiya Nath Bose told newsmen

here today that Netaji's entire family was convinced that he had not died in an air crash. The ashes belonged to an unknown Japanese and were definitely not Netaji's ashes, he said.

"The question of bringing those "ashes" cannot be tolerated by the members of the Bose family", he said.

Mr Bose said "certain interested persons" were keen on bringing the "ashes" and "foisting them on the Indian people". The photographs of a damaged plane which is said to have crashed killing Netaji had been declared fake by an American war correspondent Mr Alfred Wagg who had visited Taihoku (now Taipei) airport at the time of the crash.

Mr Bose said Col Habib-ur-Rahman of the Indian National Army (INA) who had accompanied Netaji to Saigon had been questioned in detail by Netaji's brother, Mr Sarat Chandra Bose, and his version of the alleged air crash had been rejected.

In 1979, the "civil and military Gazette" of Lahore had quoted Col Habib-ur-Rehman as saying that Subhash Chandra Bose had not died in air crash, Mr Bose said.

Mr Bose said soon after Indian newspapers reported Netaji's death in the air crash, Mahatma Gandhi had sent telegrams to members of Netaji's family saying he did not believe that Netaji had died in the accident.

headed by Dr M. Ishaq Jamkhanawala. Dr Najamuddin was a non-

Hindustan Times 13/5/80

SANKAR SANYAL

I M M E D I A T E.

Shri I. K. Guzral,
External Affairs' Minister, India,
South Block, New Delhi - 110011.

Dear Shri Guzral,

PHON.
TEMPLE ST.
JALPAIGURI-735
INDIA

14-MAY 1990.

3854/EA/90
28/5/90

re: The deliberation at the Parliament pertaining to 'fake ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose' & the very telegram dated, Jalpaiguri, the 10th MAY, 1990 sent to you and to the Prime Minister V.P. Singh requesting not to indulge in about the very act of bringing it down in INDIA.

With regard to above stated 'fake ashes' I am enclosing here with for your kind perusal the copy of my letter dated: the 11th May, 1990 I have addressed to the Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Subbuh Kanta Sahay. It will speak for itself and in relation to the letter No.4/31/88 - FF (P) dated: the 16.5.88 I was in receipt from Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs in reply to my letters dated: 11.8.87 & 11.9.87 respectively I have had the cause to write to say about the above stated 'fake ashes' to the former Prime Minister Rajib Gandhi and the President of India, Shri R. Vankatraman. The copy of it is also being enclosed here with. And, besides, the question of "enhancement of pension" (which has since been made so Rs.750 & Rs.1000/- per months - in respect of those who in Andam Jail 'for life transportation') it says that "the matter of bringing ashes of Netaji from Tokyo concern Ministry of External Affairs to whom these papers are being forwarded for necessary action."

You may very kindly recall my correspondences with you as the former Union Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting, India and a "reply" of yours in original which I had sent to you at the Embassy in Moscow, while you were there the Ambassador and I was endeavouring to establish in collaboration with USSR here in India - the Factory cum Laboratory of the Phytochemical Industry in and around the Tea Gardens of Duars & Terai and within the very reach of Forests abundening in Madecinal Plants.

As a veteran freedom fighter in the cause of National Struggle against diehard British Imperialism, my fervant request to you that you must not be a party in bringing down in Indian Soil the very "FAKE ASHES" of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Because, among all other burning questions it should be kept in mind that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has never died in Air Crash at Taiku Air Field in Taipay. It is record and late Dr. Radha Binod Paul, the eminent jurist in the Internation Tribunal to judge the "War Criminal" was of this opinion; and this very words of his was in person was told to me and other concerned by him after his return from Japan. This apart, there were and are other sources to confirm it.

Your reply would be appreciated at the back of this and, in the meantime, with all the best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

S. Sanyal. 14.5.90

Encls. As stated.

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Can you
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Jalpa

Dated, Jalpaiguri, the 11th May, 1990.

Dear Shri Sahay,

Apropos ^{of} the Telegram of date regarding the fresh attempt which are in the offing and has been come for discussion at Parliament on the day before yesterday, I would appreciate your kind reply in reference with the intimation No.1294/MOS(K)/PS dated 13 OCT 1988 which I am in receipt of in connexion with "FAKE ASHES OF NETAJI SUBHAS CH. BOSE" kept in Renkoji Temple at Tokyo in Japan. I am quoting here in below the said telegram I have had the cause to address Prime Minister V.P. Singh and External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral respectively. It reads :

"Requesting fervantly not to idlulge in bringing down from Renkoji Temple Tokyo Japan Fake Ashes of Netaji Subhas Bose Stop This hashad its reference to letter number 4/31/88 -FF (P) from GOI Ministry of Home Affairs dated 16 MAY 1988 Stop A veteran freedom fighter has had the reasons obvious soasto GOI must not be a Party for such nefarious and such dubious act de novo".

Former Minister of State for External Affairs(K) Government of India, New Delhi Prof. K.K. Tewari with the compliment had sent it to Minister of State for Home Affairs, New Delhi saying : "Application from Shri S. Sanyal, Temple Street Jalpaiguri, regarding fake ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Renkoji Temple" and this intimation I have referred above with its date and refernce number which may kindly be noted.

If any incumbents in and outside the Government of India would again make such attempt as it has been a case may be at Parliament on the otherday, then, by all means they will invite not only a unprecedented devastation and calamities, but a grave prognosis for the Country and the People of India. It was told and retold since the days of late Lal Bhahadur Sastri and thus late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, India and her ~~predecessor~~ Prime Minister Rajib Gandhi, Government of India/did'nt proceeed further, rather, put a stop to such nefarious and dubious act indulge in by a few interested one in the Country and outside.

Your reply awaited and, in the meantime, with all the good wishes

Yours sincerely,

^{sd/}
S. SANYAL.

Shri Subodh Kanta Sahay,
Minister of State for
Home Affairs, Government of
India, New Delhi - 110 001.

cc to: Shri I. K. Gujral, External Affairs Minister, Government of
India, New Delhi - 110 011.

.....&.....

S. Sanyal.

14.5.90.

(303)

No. 4/31/88 - FF (P)
Government of India/Bharat Sarkar
Ministry of Home Affairs/Grih Mantralaya
.....

Lok Nayak Bhavan
New Delhi-110 003.

Dated the 16.5.88

16 MAY 1988

To

Shri Sankar Sanjal,
L/3 - Moore Avenue
Govt. Housing Estate,
Calcutta - 700 040.

Subject :- Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letters dated 11.8.87 & 11.9.87 received through P.M.'s office on the subject mentioned above and to say that the matter of enhancement of pension is under consideration. The matter of bringing ashes of Netaji from Tokyo concern Ministry of External Affairs to whom these papers are being forwarded for necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Sd. H.S. GARA.

UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

As stated in the letter dated, Jalpaiguri, the 14th MAY, 1990 this copy is being sent to Shri I. K. Guzral, External Affairs Minister, India, South Block, NEW DELHI - 110011.

S. Sanjal.
S. SANJAL. 14.5.90.



Rajiv Sikri
Joint Secretary (EE)

No 237/JS(EE)/90

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

13 May, 1990

My dear Prem,

You would recall that at the lunch at your residence when I was in Moscow last month I had mentioned to Bostorin about Dr. Yurlova's reported statement in Calcutta in March that the Soviet Government possesses certain top secret documents on Subhas Chandra Bose.

Prof. Samar Guha has recently written to EAM on the subject. A copy of the entire correspondence forwarded by Samar Guha, including a letter written by him to Mr. Gorbachev in November '88 is enclosed.

I wonder whether the Soviet Foreign Office has ever looked into this matter. I suspect not. Nevertheless, since we have a recent reported statement by Dr. Yurlova in this matter, it may be worthwhile to find out from her what she knows about it and how we should proceed in the matter.

Discreetly

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Rajiv

(Rajiv Sikri)

Shri P.K. Budhwar
Deputy Chief of Mission,
Embassy of India,
Moscow.

S/C

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24/5/90

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MOST IMMEDIATE

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

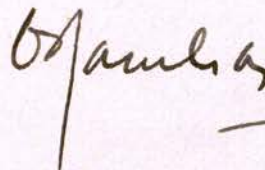
3886/EAD/90
28/5/90

Enclosed please find a copy each of Shri Amiya Nath Bose's letter to PM and ~~SSR's~~ reply dated 19th May, 1990 together with a copy of a letter jointly addressed to PM by Shri Ashoke Nath Bose and two others,


(R. Sen)
23.5.90

Joint Secretary (EA), MEA

P.M.'s office U.O. No. 800/6/C/1/90 Pol dt. 23.5.90

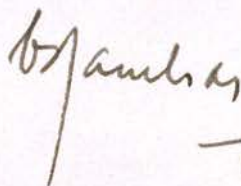


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AS (East) C. Rangappa 24/5

FS - need not be troubled.

JS (EA)



25/5

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✓ aelw

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D.O. No. 800/6/C/1/90/ol

R. Sen
Joint Secretary

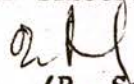
19 May, 1990.

Dear Dr. Bose,

I have been asked by the Prime Minister to thank you for your letter of May 11, and to inform you that it is being brought to the attention of the Ministry of External Affairs.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely


(R. Sen)

Shri Amiya Nath Bose,
226/4A Netaji S.C. Bose Road,
Calcutta 700040

9c



India International Centre

40 Max Mueller Marg New Delhi-110 003 Telephone : 619431 Telegrams : Intercind

11/5/90

SS(R)

Dear Prime Minister,

I wanted to hand over personally to you a letter signed by three sons of our father Parot Chandra Bose regarding the so-called ashes of Netaji now in Renkoji Temple in Japan. I met Sri H. P. Sharma in the Parliament House yesterday and expressed my desire to see you for a few minutes. I, however, had the impression that in all probability I shall not be able to meet you before I leave for Calcutta on the Monday (14th May) evening flight.

I am therefore, handing over personally our letter at your residence. I am also releasing the letter to

4057/BS(R) 18/5
2812/PM/VI 20 18/5

9924-R/L 21/5

the press in view of its great public importance.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely
Amiya Chandra Bose

Sri V. P. Singh,
Prime Minister of India

388

NATH BOSE M. A. (CANTAB)
BARRISTER-AT-LAW

226/4A NETAJI S. C. BOSE ROAD
CALCUTTA 700 040
Telephone : 725585

May 4, 1990

To
Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh
Prime Minister of India
5 Race Course Road
New Delhi 110001

Dear Prime Minister,

Recently a report appeared in a Calcutta paper that certain persons are attempting to bring the 'ashes' now lying in the Rankoji Temple in Tokyo to India and foist them on the Indian people as the 'ashes' of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. In this connection, we consider it our duty to place before you and the Government of India the views of Mahatma Gandhi and our father Sarat Chandra Bose on this matter.

In October 1945 Mr. Alfred Wagg, was-correspondent of the Chicago Tribune visited our father Sarat Chandra Bose at our Calcutta Woodburn Park residence. Mr. Wagg accompanied the American Intelligence Party, which went to Taihoku Airport from General MacArthur's Headquarters to make enquires about the alleged Air Crash, in which according to Japanese news agency report Netaji met with a fatal accident. Mr. Wagg inspected the Taihoku Airport alongwith three photographs of a damaged plane supplied to American Intelligence Party by the Japanese. Mr. Wagg informed our father that those photographs were not and could not have been taken at the Taihoku Airport. Mr. Wagg informed our father that the photographs supplied by the Japanese were fake photos.

Dr. Radhabinode Pal became a member of the Tokyo War Crimes Tribunal, which tried General Tojo and others. The American Judge in the Tribunal ^{who} showed Dr. Pal the report of the American intelligence Party ^{which} came to the definite conclusion that there was no

evidence that Netaji died in Taihoku as a result of an air crash. Dr. Pal informed our father as well as issued a public statement recording this fact. No photograph of Netaji's dead body has been produced by the Japanese.

In August 1946, General Zaman Kiani, Col. Habibur Rahman and Col. Gulzara Singh, all top ranking officers of the INA, spent a fortnight at our Woodburn Park residence. Col. Habibur Rahman accompanied Netaji in the same plane from Saigon. Our father Sarat Chandra Bose questioned Col. Habibur Rahman in detail and rejected his version of the alleged air crash and Netaji's death. Sarat Chandra Bose issued public statements and made a number of speeches in public meetings stating that Netaji did not die in any air crash at Taihoku Airport.

A burnt wrist watch was delivered to father by Col. Habibur Rahman. According to Col. Habibur Rahman Netaji was wearing this wrist watch at the time of the alleged air crash. General Zaman Kiani senior-most General of INA informed our father that Netaji never used such a watch during his entire stay in East Asia. In fact, General Kiani informed our father that a dozen of similar watches were being used by different INA Officers.

During the life-time of our youngest ~~uncle~~ uncle late Sailesh Chandra Bose a statement signed by him and all the sons of every-one of Netaji's brothers were issued to the press at Calcutta stating that the 'ashes' at Renkoji Temple were not the 'ashes' of Netaji.

Mahatma Gandhi granted an interview to Col. Habibur Rahman in 1945 and after speaking to him in detail, issued a press statement that Netaji did not die in any air crash.

The Government of India appointed two Commissions of Enquiry to Enquire into this matter. The Janata Government rejected the findings of both the Commissions. The Government of India has

finally decided that the story of Netaji's death in an air crash cannot be accepted as conclusive.

We are firmly of the view that to bring the 'ashes' now lying in the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo to India as 'ashes' of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose will be an act of sacrilege, which should not be allowed by the people and Government of India.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ashoke Nath Bose

(ASHOKE NATH BOSE)

Amiya Nath Bose

(AMIYA NATH BOSE)

Subrata Bose

(SUBRATA BOSE)

311

3994/ASC(Pol)/90
574

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

नई दिल्ली-110011
NEW DELHI-110011

D-4196/20/90
13/6/90/09
(12)

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter from Prof. Samar Guha forwarded by President to PM regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. We would be grateful if MEA could examine this urgently and send us their comments.

2659-JS(201)/90
6/6

Yshankar

(Meera Shankar)
Director

✓
Shri I.P. Khosla, AS (Pol), MEA

RMO. CO. NO. 87711/P/17/90 Pol dt. 5/6/90

I presume the
earlier Ptn are with you.

5/6.

urgently pl
20/90
50/200
4/6

JS
US/EA

We have only papers
relating to Netaji's
asked which may be
put up for
6/6



PRIME MINISTER

New Delhi
May 16, 1990

Respected Rashtrapati ji

I have received your letter dated May 15, 1990 enclosing
a letter from Shri Samar Guha regarding Netaji's disappearance.

Regards

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

[Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

1/c

Shri R. Venkataraman
President of India
Rashtrapati Bhavan
New Delhi

Pl. Sug. to PM

Pl. uli

[Signature]

phankar
23/5/

PRL. SECY. TO P.M.

Dy. No. *668-V*

Date *21/5/90*



New Delhi,
May 15, 1990.

My dear Vishwanathji,

I am enclosing a letter from Shri Samar Guha regarding Netaji's disappearance.

You may kindly take appropriate action in consultation with the External Affairs Ministry.

With warmest regards,

Yours sincerely,

R. Venkataraman

R. VENKATARAMAN

*Recd
16.5.90*

Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh,
Prime Minister,
New Delhi.

269/PM/G/90
2/5

314



8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032

PRD SAMAR GUHA
Ex संसद् सदस्य
(लोक सभा)

May 12, 1990

Respected Rastrapatiji,

I hope you will kindly remember that I gave you a copy of my letter written to the Russian leader Mekhaïl Gorbachev regarding a report of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's presence in Russia in 1961.

Later copies of my letter to Mr. Gorbachev were separately forwarded to him by Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, former President of India and Shri S. Nijalingappa, a former Congress President.

Unfortunately, there is yet no response to my letter from Mr. Gorbachev.

You kindly told me that my representation to you on Netaji will be sent to the Minister of External Affairs of the time, Shri Narshimha Rao for necessary action. I don't know if Shri Rao took any step regarding the matter.

Recently, Dr. E.S. Yurlova of the Soviet Institute of Oriental Studies told press reporters in Calcutta on March 4, 1990 that "the Soviet Government possess certain top secret documents on Subhas Chandra Bose."

I would earnestly request you to send a fresh copy of my letter to Mr. Gorbachev to our present Prime Minister Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh intimating him your desire for taking up the matter with the Soviet Government.

According to available reports top secret classified documents on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the reports of the plane crash allegedly involving him are lying the archives of the Government of Russia, U.K., Japan and USA. I would request you to ask the Govt. of India to make special investigations to know from these documents what really happened to Netaji.

I believe you will consider it as our sacred national duty to the greatest national hero of our national freedom.

With kind regards and nameskar,

Shri R. Venkat Raman
President of India
Rastrapati Bhavan
New Delhi

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha
(SAMAR GUHA)

29
PROF. SAMAR GUHA
FORMER
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



315
8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032
INDIA

ABOUT SAMAR GUHA THE WRITER OF THE LETTER

Professor Samar Guha, the writer of this letter, is now 71. He is an old revolutionary and an associate of Subhas Chandra Bose and Jayaprakash Narayan.

Prof. Guha had been in detention and prison for about 11 years during the days of British Rule in India. He had been also in Pakistan prison and many times in prisons in Free India in connection with people's movement.

Prof. Guha is a Chemistry Scholar, author of many books and former teacher of Chemistry of Jadavpur University, Calcutta.

Prof. Guha was 3-times elected to the Indian Parliament from Bengal. He was the leader of the Socialist Party in Parliament and 3-time Chairman of the Privilege Committee of the House of People, - the highest Judicial body of the Indian Parliament.

Prof. Guha was a member of the highest committee of Forward Bloc (S), and Socialist Party and still continues to be in the highest body of the present Janata Party.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
FORMER
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



316
8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032
INDIA

Comrade Mekhail Gorbachev
President of U S S R
General Secretary of the
CPSU Central Committee
Moscow
U. S. S. R.

November 5/1988

Dear Comrade Gorbachev,

Kindly accept my hearty greetings for the innovation of the new revolutionary concepts of 'Glasnost' and 'Perestroika'. Your bold move will liberate the eclipsed image of the Russian Revolution and create a new hope of moving towards a new horizon of human liberty and progress.

I am a socialist but not a Communist. However, I always shared the views of my leader, Subhas Chandra Bose, the Russian Revolution should be looked upon as the most significant landmark in the history of evolution of human civilisation. Our anti-imperialist struggle for national liberation was immensely influenced by the heritage of 1917 Russian Revolution. But the Stalin-era of absolute rigour and repression in Russia raised many questions in the mind of Indian people about the Soviet System.

Your recent crusade for nuclear-arm-free world peace and your daring precepts of 'Glasnost' and 'Perestroika', to remodel the Stalinist polity and economic system of Soviet Russia have created a universal feeling of appreciation and hope all over the world. If your far-sighted move succeeds, it will open a new era of peace, amity and international understanding.

How the Indian people wish that the Nobel peace Prize be presented to you and you be hailed as the Man of Peace and Progress of the world!

While sincerely congratulating you for your policy of 'Openness' I am placing before you an earnest request for opening the mystery about the fate of the greatest revolutionary hero of Indian freedom, Subhas Chandra Bose, whose image is as captivating for the Indian people as that of Mahatma Gandhi.



After fall of Japan on 15th August, 1945, Tokyo Radio reported on 23rd August 1945 that Subhas Chandra Bose, the Head of the State of the Government of Free India, died in a plane crash at Taihoku (Taipei) in Formosa (Taiwan) on 18th August 1945. The report was considered by the British Government and the Indian people as a palpably fake news intended to cover Subhas Chandra Bose's escape to Russia via Manchuria and across the territory of Siberia.

The reasons for the belief that Bose escaped to Russia are following :

1. Subhas Chandra Bose, twice elected President of the Indian National Congress, always considered Soviet Russia as the greatest ally of the struggle for Indian freedom.
2. During the War days Bose tried to establish contact with Stalin through British Communist Party.
3. While escaping from British prison and British India, in January 1941, Bose intended to go to Russia while reaching Kabul but without getting necessary response from Stalin, he had to move to Berlin across the Russian territory in a tactical bid to use Axis Power, the enemy of the British Imperialism, for securing Indian freedom.
4. Although Bose had his collaboration with the Axis Power to wage revolutionary war against British Imperialism for the national liberation of India, he never uttered a word against Russia during the War days nor acted in anyway against Russian interest. When Hitler treacherously attacked Russia, - Bose, who was then in Berlin, did not fear to take immense risk to denouncing it as an 'imperialist war against Russia', in his letter to Nazi Foreign Minister, Ribbentrop. Bose did not allow his revolutionary army, organised in Germany, to fight against the Russians.
5. After German aggression of Russia, Subhas Bose made an unprecedented 3-month submarine dash from Germany to Singapore to join hands with Japan, because Japan was then at war with the British but it had its friendly tie with Soviet Russia.



6. While waging revolutionary war of Indian Liberation against the British across the eastern border of India, Bose always tried to maintain contact with the Russian leaders through Jacob Malik, - the then Russian Ambassador in Tokyo.

7. Major General Isoda and Col. Tada of the Headquarter of Field Marshall Tarauchi at Saigon, who were entrusted by Japan for ensuring safe escape of Subhas Bose from being arrested by the British Army, admitted before the 'Commission of Inquiry about Disappearance of Subhas Chandra Bose' that Japan agreed to Bose's request to airlift him to Manchuria so that he could take political asylum in Russia by crossing into the Siberian territory. Accordingly, Bose was escorted to Manchuria by Gen. Shedie of the Jap Army.

8. Two months after the report of Bose's death in an aircrash in Taipei, the Home Minister of the British Government in India informed the British Prime Minister Mr. Attlee in a secret report (1945) :

"Subhas Bose might, of course in certain circumstances, be welcomed in Russia. The easiest course would be to leave him where he is and not to ask for his release."

9. During the early part of 1946, a secret report sent to the British Viceroy in India by its intelligence stated :

"There is a secret report which says, Nehru received a letter from Bose saying that he was in Russia and wanted to escape to India."

10. In another secret report to the British Government by its intelligence said :

"Ghilazi Malang had been coupling with live Bose in Russia, and in December (1945) a report said the Governor of Afgan Province 'Khost' has been informed by the Russian Ambassador in Kabul that there are many Congress refugees in Moscow and Bose was included in their number. There is little reason for such persons to bring Bose into fabricated stories."

"At the same time views that Russian officers are disclosing or alleging that Bose is in Moscow is supplied in a report received from Teharan. This stated that Maradoff, the Russian Vice-Consul General, disclosed in March (1946) that Bose is in Russia."

11. Another intelligence report received in Delhi on December 26, 1945 said :

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
FORMER
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



-4-

"Subhas Chandra Bose arrived at Dairen (in Manchuria) at 1.30 afternoon on August 23, 1945. Bose got into a jeep and proceeded toward Russian territory. After 3 hours the jeep returned and informed pilot of the plane who flew back to Tokyo." (On this day i.e. after Bose's escape to Russia Tokyo Radio reported Bose's death in an air crash at Taipei).

12. The Inter-Pole, an wellknown world secret service published a report in India that Subhas Bose went to Russia after fall of Japan.

13. Many other reports appeared in the Indian press about Subhas Bose's presence in Russia. These reports said that Bose was first a free man in Russia but later he was sent to a Siberian Concentration Camp.

14. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, who was the second Indian Ambassador in Moscow, confided his close friends Dr. S. Das, then head of Philosophy Deptt. in Calcutta University and Dr. R. C. Majumdar, the most distinguished Indian historian of his time that he came to know that Bose was kept captive in Stalin's Russia.

15. Recently, I have come across of a very important report about Subhas Bose's presence in Russia in 1961, from an Indian engineer, A. Sarkar, of Calcutta. Sarkar was sent to Russia 3 times for training in connection with the Heavy Engineering Corporation for manufacturing heavy machinery, set up in collaboration with Russia. Sarkar learnt Russian well.

Sarkar worked in Machine Building Plant at Gorlovska near the city Doniesk. He came in contact of a German-Jew who was the Deputy Chief of the Plant (Machinosttroiteliniazavod). His name was B. A. Zerobin, who was earlier an war machine designer in Nazi Germany.

Zerobin told Sarkar that he was captured in Berlin after fall of Germany and was sent to a Re-orientation Camp somewhere in Siberia. He was first taken to Siberia by train and thereafter flown to an undisclosed place and then taken to the Orientation Camp. Zerobin surmised that the Camp was somewhere near Siberian-Mongolian boarder.

Zerobin claimed that in this re-orientation camp, meant for political classes for only top foreign politicians and engineers, he met Subhas Bose on two occasions.



Zerobin could recognise Bose as he saw him earlier in Berlin during the War days. Bose's Headquarter was then in Berlin. Because of the handsome appearance and rare cut-out of the feature of his distinguished personality Zerobin could immediately recognise Bose.

According to Zerobin, Bose was brought to the Camp in a car accompanied by 2 Mongolians, one as his interpreter. Zerobin believed that both the Mongolians were KGB men but it appeared to him that Bose was well looked after.

Zerobin told Bose, "Sir, I met you in Berlin." Bose replied, 'Quite likely'.

Bose asked Zerobin: "What are you doing here?"

Zerobin : "I don't know what for".

Zerobin again asked Bose, "What is your programme? Are you going back to India?"

Bose : "I expect it to be soon."

While Bose and Zerobin were talking in German, the Mongolian interpreter, intervened saying, 'Not allowed'.

Zerobin never met Bose thereafter in the Camp.

Zerobin while disclosing his meeting with Subhas Bose warned Sarkar that he should not to disclose it while in Russia as it would endanger both.

Sarkar told about the matter to the Second Secretary of the Indian Embassy in Moscow, who also warned him of the dire consequence if he disclosed it to any body.

Sarkar recently told me about Bose's presence in Russia till 1961 in a particular circumstances as he is now out of Government service and believes that Zerobin is now dead.

Comrade Gorbachev! You have taken many bold steps in disclosing many suppressed facts of horror and repression of the Stalin days. You have done great justice to history by rehabilitating Trotsky and Bhukharin and restoring honour to the great scientist, Prof. Sakharov. Inspired by your great liberal policy of 'Glasnost', I would make an appeal - an appeal from the depth of my soul to you - on behalf of the patriotic people of India to reveal all facts about the universally adored hero of the Indian people, Subhas Chandra Bose.

321x

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
FORMER
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



-6-

Stalin might have done injustice to the legendary hero of Indian freedom, but why would you not reveal it now? Bose was a Promethean hero of Indian Revolution who staked everything for the liberation of his motherland and who was always very friendly with Russia. Why should you not let the India people know what happened to their enterprising national hero? We in India believe you to be a man of great vision and human feeling. If you let the Indian people know all about the presence of Subhas Bose in Russia, you will win the hearts of millions of millions of the people of India.

When Comrade Brezhnev visited India in November, 1973, I met him in the President's House as the leader of the Socialist Party in the Indian Parliament and gave him a letter seeking informations about Subhas Bose's presence in Russia. The letter was acknowledged but not replied. (A copy of the letter is enclosed).

Considering the poignancy of the issue involved about our greatest national hero, I hope you will excuse me for addressing this long letter to you.

I am eagerly expecting your reply before your visit to India.
With warmest regards.

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha
(SAMAR GUHA)

Former leader of the
Socialist Party in Parliament

Encl: As stated.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



27, SOUTH AVENUE

NEW DELHI 11

November 29, 1973

Dear Comrade Brezhnev,

I, on behalf of the Socialist Party in the Parliament, extend our warm greetings to you and your colleagues now in India and, through you, to the great people of Russia. Russian Revolution and its national reconstruction added great incentive to our aspiration to achieve socialist transformation of our country in an Indian way, under Indian condition and on the basis of democratic and cultural values that the people of our country cherished from the days of our ancient civilization. We welcome friendly relation with Russia as also with other countries for establishing fraternal relation of peace, progress, understanding and mutual respect of national independence of all countries.

On the occasion of your visit to our country, I want to make an earnest request to you to help the Indian people to resolve the mystery surrounding the fate of their beloved leader, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. A very large section of Indian people believe that Russia can throw light about what happened to their leader.

I am sure, it is known to you that the Indian people honour Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as the greatest revolutionary of the days of their national liberation struggle.

It may be known to you that, to resolve the mystery about Netaji Bose, the Government of India have set up a second Inquiry Commission under a Justice of a High Court. The Commission, after about 3 years of its investigation works, is in the last stage of finalizing its report. However, the Commission suffered for want of documents from countries like Soviet Russia, U.S.A. and Britain connected with the episode of disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose after escaping from India in 1941, wanted to go to Russia to set up his head quarters in the Soviet-land for conducting revolutionary struggle against the British imperialism. Although Russia at that time did not accept his plan yet allowed him to pass through Russia, with honour, to Italy.

Netaji Bose joined hands with the Axis power in Europe, as his strategy was to utilize the Britain's enemy's enemy for achieving India's independence. Although he collaborated with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy for achieving his revolutionary objective, he never compromised his ideology of socialism with the totalitarian ideology of the fascist countries. It is on record that he expressed his deep resentment against the treacherous



aggression on your motherland by Hitler. He made it absolutely clear to Hitler before he left for Japan that the Indian revolutionary army, that was formed under his leadership in Germany would not be compelled to fight, under any circumstances, in the eastern front against Soviet Russia but only against the British army in the western front. Many Indians of the Revolutionary Army for their refusal to fight against the Soviet Army, had to face extreme persecution at the hands of Nazi Germany. Even while Netaji Bose was in Germany, he always maintained a friendly attitude towards Russia and did not utter a single word in support of Nazi aggression against your Motherland. Coming to Japan after 90 days of most hazardous submarine journey, which no revolutionary in any time before dared to undertake in fulfilling a sacred mission of liberation of his country, Netaji Bose formed a big Indian National Army and had set up a Provisional Government of free India. This Provisional Government, which was recognized by 11 nations of those days, had declared war against Britain and U.S.A., but it steadfastly maintained a policy of friendship with Russia and China. The Indian National Army, under the leadership of the legendary personality of Netaji Bose, fought the glorious battle of Indian liberation against the British imperialism in the Indian soil along the Indo-Burmese frontier. Netaji has been hailed in India as the greatest Hero of the Indian people and the chapter of the liberation struggle of the Revolutionary Army of Netaji Bose is remembered as the proudest phase of the march of Indian freedom.

After the defeat of Germany in 1944, when it appeared to him that the defeat of Japan was also an inevitability, Netaji Bose tried to contact Russia to cross over to your country and resume India's freedom struggle from there after the fall of Japan. He prepared the plan to cross into Russia through Manchuria. The fact about this plan has been corroborated by the findings of the first Netaji Inquiry Commission from the records of the Provisional Free India Government.

Soon after the fall of Japan in the month of August, 1945, Netaji made an air dash to reach Manchuria in an effort to contact the Russian authority there and thereafter enter into the Soviet territory of Siberia. On 18th August, 1945, Japan made an unconvincing broadcast that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose died in a plane crash at Taipei airport in Formosa (Taiwan).

The Indian people, for various unassailable reasons, did not believe in the story of reported death of their beloved leader. Recently, I visited Taipei in Formosa alongwith Netaji Inquiry Commission. After making thorough inquiry about the report

23rd Aug



-3-

of death of Netaji at Taipei, I came back to India with positive conviction that the whole story of Netaji Bose's death at Taipei was a part of a master deception plan to enable Netaji Bose to safely reach Manchuria and thereafter to go to Soviet Russia.

Many reports appeared in the Indian press that the great revolutionary leader of the Indian people, Netaji Bose, indeed reached Russia and he was a free man in Russia but sometime after, he was arrested by Stalin and kept in a prison in Siberia. Many years passed but the Indian people did not get any official information about Netaji Bose from the Government of Soviet Russia under Com. Stalin or the new regime set up in Russia after the death of the great Russian leader.

On behalf of the Indian people, I make an earnest appeal to you to send all documents that are in the hands of the Government of Russia about Netaji Bose and also what the Russian Government know about him. I hope and trust that, in the interest of friendship between the two peoples of Russia and India, as also Russia being a land of great revolution, you will kindly take personal interest in giving all informations to the Indian people regarding their great leader Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and send all the documents to the Government of India connected therewith, for placing the same before the Netaji Inquiry Commission. The Indian people will remain ever grateful to you if you kindly consider the matter as very urgent as the second Netaji Inquiry Commission is going to finalise its findings very soon.

I again extend our warmest greetings to you and through you our best wishes to the people of your Motherland.

With warmest regards,

Yours comradely,
Sd/- Samar Guha
Leader of the
Socialist Party in Parliament

Com. Leonid Brezhnev,
General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party,
Care Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi

The letter was duly received by the staff of the Russian leader, but regrettably the expected reply never came. However, to bring some pressure on the Russian authority, the letter was given fair publicity by the Indian press.



R L Narayan
Counsellor(Political)

3558/JS(EE)/90
19/6

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भारत का दूतावास, मास्को
EMBASSY OF INDIA,
c-8 Ulitsa Obukha
MOSCOW
Tel. No. 297-0820

No. Mos/Pol/125/1/90

5260/EE/90
19/6
June 12, 1990
19

My dear Rajiv,

Please refer to your letter No.2837/JS(EE)/90 dated 18 May 1990 addressed to DCM regarding the documentation on Subhas Chandra Bose which is apparently in the possession of the Soviet Government. This is an interim reply to clarify that we have addressed a Note Verbale on this matter to the Soviet Foreign Office. I have spoken also to Yurlov of the Central Committee as well as to the South Asia Directorate in this matter. They are making enquiries into the matter and have promised to revert to us.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely

19/6
D&S

Pl. open a new
file. There was a
note from me
last week.

RLN
(R L Narayan)

Shri Rajiv Sikri
JS(EE)
MEA, New Delhi

21/6
SAFE
Mr. Billa 292
21/6

(326)

(14)

June 13, 1990

10 NATION THE HINDUSTAN TIMES.

Papers on Bose to be sought

NEW DELHI, June 12 (HTC) Prime Minister V. P. Singh has promised to his Janata Dal Socialist colleague, Prof Samar Guha, that the Government will follow up his suggestion of procuring the "secret documents" on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The Socialist leader, who has written a number of books on Netaji and is acknowledged as an authority on him, had written a letter to the Prime Minister on May 17, stating that secret documents on the disappearance of Netaji were believed to be available with the USSR, the UK, Japan, and the USA.

Mr Singh's reply on June 7 said he had asked the External Affairs Ministry to look into the suggestion.

Prof Guha had also written a letter to President R. Venkataraman on May 25. The President said in his reply dated June 4 that he had passed on his memorandum to the Prime Minister.

Socialist leader told this correspondent that if the Government skilfully followed up his suggestion, the people would know what actually happened to the legendary freedom fighter whose death was still surrounded with mysteries.

P. put-up the letter. We shall have to respond to PMO in the matter.

88/

14/6

Letter will be submitted to JS (EA)

JS(EA)

14/6/90

JS(EA)

426/PJ/PM/CO
14/6
प्रधान मन्त्री कार्यालय
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

most immediate
(327) 5143
एन.जी.आर.
NGO

6684/EAD/90
619

18 JUN 1990

नई दिल्ली-110011
NEW DELHI-110011

Please find enclosed, a copy of the letter which PM has received from Prof. Guha, regarding some documents on the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, believed to be available in the USSR, USA, UK and Japan. Also enclosed is a copy of PM's reply to Prof. Guha.

We would be grateful for MEA's comments for submission to the Prime Minister.

Meera Shankar

(Meera Shankar)
Director

✓
FOREIGN SECRETARY.

P.M.O. NO. MO. 8705/11/P/17/90 - Pst dt. 14/6/90

EA Dirn have already
replied to P.M.O.
Margherita on her file.

Yankar

Dr (EA) *h*
C.A.W. 19
19

328)

7



PRIME MINISTER

New Delhi
June 7, 1990

Dear Prof. Guha,

I have received your letter of May 17, 1990 regarding high level investigations into secret documents on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, believed to be available in the USSR, UK, Japan and the USA.

I have asked the Ministry of External Affairs to look into this.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

[Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

Prof. Samar Guha
B/2, Central Park
Calcutta - 700 032

329

Guha
of Parliament

8/2 Central Park
Calcutta 32
Phone : 72-1600

Date... 17/5/90

Dear Viswanath Pratappi,

I waited for last 4/5 days to see you for a few minutes. But it could not be.

ms
31/5 | I am sending the enclosed memorandum to you. I have met ^{our} President, Shri R. Venkatram and Shri Gujral on the issue involved in this memorandum.

I believe this issue of great patriotic importance will receive your attention.

With regards.

Shri V. P. Singh
Prime Minister

Yours sincerely
K. Kamaraj

1/5 2/5 3/5

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
Ex. संसद् सदस्य
(लोक सभा)



330
8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032

May 12/1990

17

Dear Prime Minister,

I am sure it is known to you that during the days of Janata Govt. Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai made an announcement on the floor of Lok Sabha in August 1978 rejecting the finding of Shah Nawaj Committee and Khosla Commission on "disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose." According to various official documents available a general belief prevails in India that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose escaped to Soviet Russia under the camouflage of a fake air-crash at Taihoku airport of former Formosa after the defeat of Japan.

Sometime back I was convincingly told by an Indian engineer who had been in Russia that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was kept confined in a Re-orientation Camp in Siberia.

On the basis of various reports about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's presence in Russia I wrote the enclosed letter to the Soviet leader Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev. My letter was later forwarded to Mr. Gorbachev separately by Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, former President of India, and Shri S. Nijalingappa a former President of the Congress.

I also made a representation to the President of India Shri R. Venkatraman for taking up the matter with the Govt. of Soviet Russia. The President readily agreed to send my letter to Mr. Gorbachev to Shri Narisimha Rao, the then Minister of External Affairs.

My letter has not been replied by Mr. Gorbachev. Whether any positive step has been taken by the Government of India to contact Russian Govt. regarding the issue raised in the enclosed letter has not been informed to me.

I am giving you a fresh copy of my letter addressed to the Soviet leader Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev. I believe that you will consider it to be a sensitive national issue to take up the matter of Netaji's probable presence in Russia after the War with the Moscow authority.

Recently, Dr. E.S. Yurlova of Soviet Institute of Oriental Studies told the press ~~report~~ on March 4, 1990 at Calcutta that 'the Soviet Govt. possess certain top secret documents on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which had never been made accessible.'

It is also known that many top secret documents on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the report of the plane crash alleging his death in

11987- Bel
Cub

संसद् सदस्य
(लोक सभा)



-2-

it are lying in classified secret files of the Governments of Japan, U.K., U.S.A. and Soviet Russia. After rejection of the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission on 'disappearance of Netaji' a suggestion was made to me by Janata Government that some positive efforts #would be made for high level investigations into the secret documents in the hands of Soviet Russia, U.K., Japan and U.S.A. However, because of sudden collapse of the Janata Government the matter could not be pursued.

I would urge you to take up the matter of Netaji's probable presence in Russia after the War with the Soviet authority and also take positive steps for high level investigations into the documents that are lying with the Governments of U.K., Japan and USA to finally know what really happened to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I hope you will consider it a sacred national duty to make all efforts to finally know what really happened to the greatest national hero of the Indian national freedom, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

With thanks and regards,

Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh
Prime Minister of India
New Delhi

Yours sincerely,

Samarguha

(SAMAR GUHA)



8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032

MOF. SAMAR GUHA
Ex संसद् सदस्य
(लोक सभा)

May 12, 1990

Respected Rastrapatiji,

I hope you will kindly remember that I gave you a copy of my letter written to the Russian leader Mikhail Gorbachev regarding a report of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's presence in Russia in 1961.

Later copies of my letter to Mr. Gorbachev were separately forwarded to him by Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, former President of India and Shri S. Nijalingappa, a former Congress President.

Unfortunately, there is yet no response to my letter from Mr. Gorbachev.

You kindly told me that my representation to you on Netaji will be sent to the Minister of External Affairs of the time, Shri Narshimha Rao for necessary action. I don't know if Shri Rao took any step regarding the matter.

Recently, Dr. E.S. Yurlova of the Soviet Institute of Oriental Studies told press reporters in Calcutta on March 4, 1990 that 'the Soviet Government possess certain top secret documents on Subhas Chandra Bose.'

I would earnestly request you to send a fresh copy of my letter to Mr. Gorbachev to our present Prime Minister Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh intimating him your desire for taking up the matter with the Soviet Government.

According to available reports top secret classified documents on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the reports of the plane crash allegedly involving him are lying in the archives of the Government of Russia, U.K., Japan and USA. I would request you to ask the Govt. of India to make special investigations to know from these documents what really happened to Netaji.

I believe you will consider it as our sacred national duty to the greatest national hero of our national freedom.

With kind regards and namaskar,

Shri R. Venkat Raman
President of India
Rastrapati Bhavan
New Delhi

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha
(SAMAR GUHA)

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
FORMER
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032
INDIA

ABOUT SAMAR GUHA THE WRITER OF THE LETTER

Professor Samar Guha, the writer of this letter, is now 71. He is an old revolutionary and an associate of Subhas Chandra Bose and Jayaprakash Narayan.

Prof. Guha had been in detention and prison for about 11 years during the days of British Rule in India. He had been also in Pakistan prison and many times in prisons in Free India in connection with people's movement.

Prof. Guha is a Chemistry Scholar, author of many books and former teacher of Chemistry of Jadavpur University, Calcutta.

Prof. Guha was 3-times elected to the Indian Parliament from Bengal. He was the leader of the Socialist Party in Parliament and 3-time Chairman of the Privilege Committee of the House of People, - the highest Judicial body of the Indian Parliament.

Prof. Guha was a member of the highest committee of Forward Bloc (S), and Socialist Party and still continues to be in the highest body of the present Janata Party.

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PROF. SAMAR GUHA
FORMER
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032
INDIA

Comrade Mekhail Gorbachev
President of U S S R
General Secretary of the
CPSU Central Committee
Moscow
U. S. S. R.

November 5/1988

Dear Comrade Gorbachev,

Kindly accept my hearty greetings for the innovation of the new revolutionary concepts of 'Glasnost' and 'Perestroika'. Your bold move will liberate the eclipsed image of the Russian Revolution and create a new hope of moving towards a new horizon of human liberty and progress.

I am a socialist but not a Communist. However, I always shared the views of my leader, Subhas Chandra Bose, the Russian Revolution should be looked upon as the most significant landmark in the history of evolution of human civilisation. Our anti-imperialist struggle for national liberation was immensely influenced by the heritage of 1917 Russian Revolution. But the Stalin-era of absolute rigour and repression in Russia raised many questions in the mind of Indian people about the Soviet System.

Your recent crusade for nuclear-arm-free world peace and your daring precepts of 'Glasnost' and 'Perestroika', to remodel the Stalinist polity and economic system of Soviet Russia have created a universal feeling of appreciation and hope all over the world. If your far-sighted move succeeds, it will open a new era of peace, amity and international understanding.

How the Indian people wish that the Nobel peace Prize be presented to you and you be hailed as the Man of Peace and Progress of the world!

While sincerely congratulating you for your policy of 'Openness' I am placing before you an earnest request for opening the mystery about the fate of the greatest revolutionary hero of Indian freedom, Subhas Chandra Bose, whose image is as captivating for the Indian people as that of Mahatma Gandhi.



After fall of Japan on 15th August, 1945, Tokyo Radio reported on 23rd August 1945 that Subhas Chandra Bose, the Head of the State of the Government of Free India, died in a plane crash at Taihoku (Taipei) in Formosa (Taiwan) on 18th August 1945. The report was considered by the British Government and the Indian people as a palpably fake news intended to cover Subhas Chandra Bose's escape to Russia via Manchuria and across the territory of Siberia.

The reasons for the belief that Bose escaped to Russia are following :

1. Subhas Chandra Bose, twice elected President of the Indian National Congress, always considered Soviet Russia as the greatest ally of the struggle for Indian freedom.
2. During the War days Bose tried to establish contact with Stalin through British Communist Party.
3. While escaping from British prison and British India, in January 1941, Bose intended to go to Russia while reaching Kabul but without getting necessary response from Stalin, he had to move to Berlin across the Russian territory in a tactical bid to use Axis Power, the enemy of the British Imperialism, for securing Indian freedom.
4. Although Bose had his collaboration with the Axis Power to wage revolutionary war against British Imperialism for the national liberation of India, he never uttered a word against Russia during the War days nor acted in anyway against Russian interest. When Hitler treacherously attacked Russia, - Bose, who was then in Berlin, did not fear to take immense risk to denouncing it as an 'imperialist war against Russia', in his letter to Nazi Foreign Minister, Ribbentrop. Bose did not allow his revolutionary army, organised in Germany, to fight against the Russians.
5. After German aggression of Russia, Subhas Bose made an unprecedented 3-month submarine dash from Germany to Singapore to join hands with Japan, because Japan was then at war with the British but it had its friendly tie with Soviet Russia.



6. While waging revolutionary war of Indian Liberation against the British across the eastern border of India, Bose always tried to maintain contact with the Russian leaders through Jacob Malik, - the then Russian Ambassador in Tokyo.

7. Major General Isoda and Col. Tada of the Headquarter of Field Marshall Tarauchi at Saigon, who were entrusted by Japan for ensuring safe escape of Subhas Bose from being arrested by the British Army, admitted before the 'Commission of Inquiry about Disappearance of Subhas Chandra Bose' that Japan agreed to Bose's request to airlift him to Manchuria so that he could take political asylum in Russia by crossing into the Siberian territory. Accordingly, Bose was escorted to Manchuria by Gen. Shedie of the Jap Army.

8. Two months after the report of Bose's death in an aircrash in Taipei, the Home Minister of the British Government in India informed the British Prime Minister Mr. Attlee in a secret report (1945) :

"Subhas Bose might, of course in certain circumstances, be welcomed in Russia. The easiest course would be to leave him where he is and not to ask for his release."

9. During the early part of 1946, a secret report sent to the British Viceroy in India by its intelligence stated :

"There is a secret report which says, Nehru received a letter from Bose saying that he was in Russia and wanted to escape to India."

10. In another secret report to the British Government by its intelligence said :

"Ghilazi Malang had been coupling with live Bose in Russia, and in December (1945) a report said the Governor of Afgan Province 'Khost' has been informed by the Russian Ambassador in Kabul that there are many Congress refugees in Moscow and Bose was included in their number. There is little reason for such persons to bring Bose into fabricated stories."

"At the same time views that Russian officers are disclosing or alleging that Bose is in Moscow is supplied in a report received from Teharan. This stated that Maradoff, the Russian Vice-Consul General, disclosed in March (1946) that Bose is in Russia."

11. Another intelligence report received in Delhi on December 26, 1945 said :



"Subhas Chandra Bose arrived at Dairen (in Manchuria) at 1.30 afternoon on August 23, 1945. Bose got into a jeep and proceeded toward Russian territory. After 3 hours the jeep returned and informed pilot of the plane who flew back to Tokyo." (On this day i.e. after Bose's escape to Russia Tokyo Radio reported Bose's death in an air crash at Taipei).

12. The Inter-Pole, an wellknown world secret service published a report in India that Subhas Bose went to Russia after fall of Japan.

13. Many other reports appeared in the Indian press about Subhas Bose's presence in Russia. These reports said that Bose was first a free man in Russia but later he was sent to a Siberian Concentration Camp.

14. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, who was the second Indian Ambassador in Moscow, confided his close friends Dr. S. Das, then head of Philosophy Deptt. in Calcutta University and Dr. F. C. Majumdar, the most distinguished Indian historian of his time that he came to know that Bose was kept captive in Stalin's Russia.

15. Recently, I have came across of a very important report about Subhas Bose's presence in Russia in 1961, from an Indian engineer, A. Sarkar, of Calcutta. Sarkar was sent to Russia 3 times for training in connection with the Heavy Engineering Corporation for manufacturing heavy machinery, set up in collaboration with Russia. Sarkar learnt Russian well.

Sarkar worked in Machine Building Plant at Gorlovska near the city Doniesk. He came in contact of a German-Jew who was the Deputy Chief of the Plant (Machinosttroitelinizavod). His name was B. A. Zerobin, who was earlier an war machine designer in Nazi Germany.

Zerobin told Sarkar that he was captured in Berlin after fall of Germany and was sent to a Re-orientation Camp somewhere in Siberia. He was first taken to Siberia by train and thereafter flown to an undisclosed place and then taken to the Orientation Camp. Zerobin surmised that the Camp was somewhere near Siberian-Mongolian boarder.

Zerobin claimed that in this re-orientation camp, meant for political classes for only top foreign politicians and engineers, he met Subhas Bose on two occasions.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
FORMER
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



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Zerobin could recognise Bose as he saw him earlier in Berlin during the War days. Bose's Headquarter was then in Berlin. Because of the handsome appearance and rare cut-out of the feature of his distinguished personality Zerobin could immediately recognise Bose.

According to Zerobin, Bose was brought to the Camp in a car accompanied by 2 Mongolians, one as his interpreter. Zerobin believed that both the Mongolians were KGB men but it appeared to him that Bose was well looked after.

Zerobin told Bose, "Sir, I met you in Berlin." Bose replied, 'Quite likely'.

Bose asked Zerobin: "What are you doing here?"

Zerobin : "I don't know what for".

Zerobin again asked Bose, "What is your programme? Are you going back to India?"

Bose : "I expect it to be soon."

While Bose and Zerobin were talking in German, the Mongolian interpreter, intervened saying, 'Not allowed'.

Zerobin never met Bose thereafter in the Camp.

Zerobin while disclosing his meeting with Subhas Bose warned Sarkar that he should not to disclose it while in Russia as it would endanger both.

Sarkar told about the matter to the Second Secretary of the Indian Embassy in Moscow, who also warned him of the dire consequence if he disclosed it to any body.

Sarkar recently told me about Bose's presence in Russia till 1961 in a particular circumstances as he is now out of Government service and believes that Zerobin is now dead.

Comrade Gorbachev! You have taken many bold steps in disclosing many suppressed facts of horror and repression of the Stalin days. You have done great justice to history by rehabilitating Trotsky and Bhukharin and restoring honour to the great scientist, Prof. Sakharov. Inspired by your great liberal policy of 'Glasnost', I would make an appeal - an appeal from the depth of my soul to you - on behalf of the patriotic people of India to reveal all facts about the universally adored hero of the Indian people, Subhas Chandra Bose.

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PROF. SAMAR GUHA
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



27, SOUTH AVENUE
NEW DELHI 11
November 29, 1973

Dear Comrade Brezhnev,

I, on behalf of the Socialist Party in the Parliament, extend our warm greetings to you and your colleagues now in India and, through you, to the great people of Russia. Russian Revolution and its national reconstruction added great incentive to our aspiration to achieve socialist transformation of our country in an Indian way, under Indian condition and on the basis of democratic and cultural values that the people of our country cherished from the days of our ancient civilization. We welcome friendly relation with Russia as also with other countries for establishing fraternal relation of peace, progress, understanding and mutual respect of national independence of all countries.

On the occasion of your visit to our country, I want to make an earnest request to you to help the Indian people to resolve the mystery surrounding the fate of their beloved leader, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. A very large section of Indian people believe that Russia can throw light about what happened to their leader.

I am sure, it is known to you that the Indian people honour Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as the greatest revolutionary of the days of their national liberation struggle.

It may be known to you that, to resolve the mystery about Netaji Bose, the Government of India have set up a second Inquiry Commission under a Justice of a High Court. The Commission, after about 3 years of its investigation works, is in the last stage of finalizing its report. However, the Commission suffered for want of documents from countries like Soviet Russia, U.S.A. and Britain connected with the episode of disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose after escaping from India in 1941, wanted to go to Russia to set up his head quarters in the Soviet-land for conducting revolutionary struggle against the British imperialism. Although Russia at that time did not accept his plan yet allowed him to pass through Russia, with honour, to Italy.

Netaji Bose joined hands with the Axis power in Europe, as his strategy was to utilize the Britain's enemy's enemy for achieving India's independence. Although he collaborated with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy for achieving his revolutionary objective, he never compromised his ideology of socialism with the totalitarian ideology of the fascist countries. It is on record that he expressed his deep resentment against the treacherous



aggression on your motherland by Hitler. He made it absolutely clear to Hitler before he left for Japan that the Indian revolutionary army, that was formed under his leadership in Germany would not be compelled to fight, under any circumstances, in the eastern front against Soviet Russia but only against the British army in the western front. Many Indians of the Revolutionary Army for their refusal to fight against the Soviet Army, had to face extreme persecution at the hands of Nazi Germany. Even while Netaji Bose was in Germany, he always maintained a friendly attitude towards Russia and did not utter a single word in support of Nazi aggression against your Motherland. Coming to Japan after 90 days of most hazardous submarine journey, which no revolutionary in any time before dared to undertake in fulfilling a sacred mission of liberation of his country, Netaji Bose formed a big Indian National Army and had set up a Provisional Government of free India. This Provisional Government, which was recognized by 11 nations of those days, had declared war against Britain and U.S.A., but it steadfastly maintained a policy of friendship with Russia and China. The Indian National Army, under the leadership of the legendary personality of Netaji Bose, fought the glorious battle of Indian liberation against the British imperialism in the Indian soil along the Indo-Burmese frontier. Netaji has been hailed in India as the greatest Hero of the Indian people and the chapter of the liberation struggle of the Revolutionary Army of Netaji Bose is remembered as the proudest phase of the march of Indian freedom.

After the defeat of Germany in 1944, when it appeared to him that the defeat of Japan was also an inevitability, Netaji Bose tried to contact Russia to cross over to your country and resume India's freedom struggle from there after the fall of Japan. He prepared the plan to cross into Russia through Manchuria. The fact about this plan has been corroborated by the findings of the first Netaji Inquiry Commission from the records of the Provisional Free India Government.

Soon after the fall of Japan in the month of August, 1945, Netaji made an air dash to reach Manchuria in an effort to contact the Russian authority there and thereafter enter into the Soviet territory of Siberia. On 18th August, 1945, Japan made an unconvincing broadcast that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose died in a plane crash at Taipei airport in Formosa (Taiwan).

The Indian people, for various unassailable reasons, did not believe in the story of reported death of their beloved leader. Recently, I visited Taipei in Formosa alongwith Netaji Inquiry Commission. After making thorough inquiry about the report



-3-

of death of Netaji at Taipei, I came back to India with positive conviction that the whole story of Netaji Bose's death at Taipei was a part of a master deception plan to enable Netaji Bose to safely reach Manchuria and thereafter to go to Soviet Russia.

Many reports appeared in the Indian press that the great revolutionary leader of the Indian people, Netaji Bose, indeed reached Russia and he was a free man in Russia but sometime after, he was arrested by Stalin and kept in a prison in Siberia. Many years passed but the Indian people did not get any official information about Netaji Bose from the Government of Soviet Russia under Com. Stalin or the new regime set up in Russia after the death of the great Russian leader.

On behalf of the Indian people, I make an earnest appeal to you to send all documents that are in the hands of the Government of Russia about Netaji Bose and also what the Russian Government know about him. I hope and trust that, in the interest of friendship between the two peoples of Russia and India, as also Russia being a land of great revolution, you will kindly take personal interest in giving all informations to the Indian people regarding their great leader Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and send all the documents to the Government of India connected therewith, for placing the same before the Netaji Inquiry Commission. The Indian people will remain ever grateful to you if you kindly consider the matter as very urgent as the second Netaji Inquiry Commission is going to finalise its findings very soon.

I again extend our warmest greetings to you and through you our best wishes to the people of your Motherland.

With warmest regards,

Yours comradely,
Sd/- Samar Guha
Leader of the
Socialist Party in Parliament

Com. Leonid Brezhnev,
General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party,
Care Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi

The letter was duly received by the staff of the Russian leader, but regrettably the expected reply never came. However, to bring some pressure on the Russian authority, the letter was given fair publicity by the Indian press.

COL. P. K. SAHGAL

15/241, CIVIL LINES.

KANPUR - 208001

Telephone : 211393

13th September, 1990

Shri I.K. Gujral
Minister for External
Affairs,
Govt. of India,
New Delhi

Dear Shri Gujral,

In response to an invitation received by us from the Subhas Bose Academy, Lakshmi and I together with Dr Sisir Bose, Shri SheelBhadra Yajee, Shri Biren Roy and other friends participated in a ceremony held at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo to commemorate the death anniversary of Netaji on the 18th August. From the Japanese side the ceremony was attended by the Chairman of the Academy Ninety four years old Gen Katakura, who came from the hospital attended by a nurse, Ninety six years old Gen Assuriaye, Mrs Kimura the widow of Gen Kimura and other Japanese who were associated with Netaji during 1943-45. The ceremony was very solemn and impressive.

The Academy has spent many millions of yens to renovate the old Temple to make a fitting repository of Netaji's Ashes.

Although the members of the Academy are proud of being the custodians of Netajis' Ashes, they are naturally anxious that the Ashes of the Great Son of India should be returned to his motherland with due honour.

On our return to India ^{we} I called on the Hon'ble Prime Minister on the 3rd September. We gave him a detailed account of our visit and further, on our own behalf and on behalf of thousands of surviving comrades who participated in the Freedom struggle under the leadership of Netaji, urged upon the Prime Minister that the government of India should make early and proper arrangements to bring Netajis' Ashes to India with due honour. I also told him that Anita, Netajis' daughter was willing to join any party that may go to Tokyo to bring back Netajis' Ashes.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister gave us a very patient hearing and was pleased to telephone you in this regard.

I do hope that your ministry has since initiated action in the matter and if I can be of any assistance, my services are entirely at your disposal.

: 2 :

During our return journey, Lakshmi and I spent a few days each in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. It was heartening to note that the spirit of Netaji and I.N.A was still very much alive in these two countries.

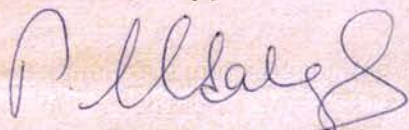
Persons of Indian origin living in Singapore and Malaysia are most anxious to maintain strong links with India and they have suggested that for grant of visas to visit India and other facilities they may be considered at Par with N.R.I's. I sincerely hope that your ministry will please consider their request favourably.

They are very appreciative of the educational opportunities being given to their children in Indian Educational Institutes and would be very happy if they could be further augmented. In this connection I am sending you a Photostat copy of a letter dated 23.04.90 issued by the Section Officer (Education) of your ministry to Shri S. Thilakavathi concerning his admission into the M.B.B.S course. I shall be most grateful if you could please instruct the officer concerned to expedite further action in the matter.

Friends in Malaysia made another request that for sentimental reasons they would like to see Netaji's picture hung in a place of honour in our High Commission in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore and the Embassy in Tokyo.

With Best regards,

Yours Sincerely,



(P.K. SAHGAL)

(51)

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ROLL NO. 74195

Government of India
Ministry of External Affairs
(Students Cell)

No. AAI/327/83/90

....

527, Akbar Bhawan
Chankyapuri,
New Delhi - 110021

Dated the 23/4/90

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Dear Student,

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your application for nomination to M.B.B.S course in India against the reserved seats under the 'Self Financing Foreign Students Scheme' administered by this Ministry for the academic session, 1990-91. Your Roll Number is indicated above.

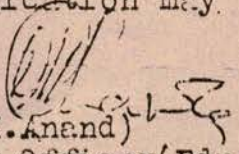
2. This is merely an acknowledgement of your application and it should not be considered as an assurance for a seat. The decision of the Ministry regarding nomination against the reserved seats will be communicated to the selected candidates only, in due course. The decision of the Ministry will be final in this regard.

3. You may write to this Ministry only if you have to intimate change of address. In that event you must clearly indicate your name & nationality, the roll number allotted and the course applied for to enable us to link the previous papers.

4. Your application is incomplete for want of the following:-

- (i) _____
- (ii) _____
- (iii) _____
- (iv) _____

5. The requisite documents/information may kindly be furnished urgently and, in any case, not later than _____ failing which your application may not be considered for nomination.


(A.K. Anand)
Section Officer (Edu)
Telephone 604451
Extn. 526

Name: S. THILAKAVATHI
Address: 50 CONTINENTAL PARK
JALAN RUKUN
JALAN KUCHAI LAMA
50000 KUALA LUMPUR
MALAYSIA

REMINDER

3433

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

5262-AS (Pol) 90

24/7

नई दिल्ली-110011
NEW DELHI-110011

16

Reference this office u.o.
of even number dated the 5th and 14th
June, 1990 regarding Netaji Subhash
Chandra Bose.

It is requested that comments
of MEA may kindly be sent to this
office urgently for submission to
the Prime Minister.

Shankar

(Meera Shankar)
Director

MEA (Shri I.P.Khosla, AS (POL))

PMO u.o.No. 870/11/P/17/90-Pol Dated 19.7.1990

23

U.O. of 5th June was marked
to JSC(EA), 14th June does
not appear to have been
recd. in AS(POL)'s Office according
to diary register.

RS

24/7/90

To whom were
these pps
marked?

24/7

RS

343



76

विदेश मंत्री
भारत

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INDIA

V 3isu/EAM/90

NEW DELHI-110011

21 September 1990

Dear Ms. Subhashni Jee,

I have received your letter of September 17, 1990, regarding bringing back Ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. It is receiving my attention.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(I.K. GUJRAL)

de

DS/EA
DS(CEA)

Ms. Subhashni Ali
Member of Parliament
15/241, Civil Lines
KANPUR-208 001

1200/V0/190
9/10

344

470
5010/Coord/90
16/12

5010/Coord/90
12/10



27

PRIME MINISTER

New Delhi
September 25, 1990

Sub: Letter dated 11th September, 1990 regarding
investigation into the 'disappearance' of Netaji.

Dear Prof. Guha,

Your letter on the above subject has been received.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Vishwanath Pratap Singh

[Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

Coord
8/10/90

Prof. Samar Guha
8/2 Central Park
Calcutta - 700 032

No.870/11/P/17/90-POL

October 4, 1990

✓ Copy along with copy of the letter under reference
forwarded for information to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Files on subject at present with
EA Division. May be see
summary
12/10
DIRECTOR(EA)

Examine

NR

16/12

Dr (J&M)

Meera Shankar
(Meera Shankar)
Director

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
Ex. MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032

September 11/1990

Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh
Prime Minister of India
New Delhi

Dear Prime Minister,

You have very patriotically responded to the representation for making an all-out effort to find out what really happened to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, the legendary hero of Indian Freedom.

You very kindly wrote to me on June 7, 1990 :

'I have received your letter of May 17, 1990 regarding high level investigations into secret documents on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, believed to be available in the USSR, UK, Japan and the USA.

I have asked the Ministry of External Affairs to look into this.'

I have also been informed that a similar assurance has been given to Shri Chitta Basu, M.P and his Forward Bloc friends when they met you recently to submit a memorandum on 'disappearance of Netaji'.

I hope that you have already asked the Minister of External Affairs, Shri I.K.Gujral, for making an Investigative Inquiry into the documents believed to be available with the Governments of the USSR, UK, Japan and the USA relating to disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I had been recently to USA and London. After contacting our Ambassador Dr. Abid Hussian at Washington and our High Commissioner Shri Kuldip Nayar at London, I came to know that the initial process for such Investigative Inquiry has not been started.

The process of such Investigative Inquiry to find out secret documents from these four Governments about Netaji may not be any easy task. UK and USA have lingering inhibitions about Netaji and USSR and Japan are very secretive by tradition.

The whole matter for Investigative Inquiry will need careful planning by an expert team to make the inquiry effective.

To make a beginning of the inquiry, requests for cooperation with the Indian Investigative Inquiry by the Government of the USSR, UK, Japan and USA have to be made by the Prime Minister of India. Only then these Governments will take up the matter with necessary seriousness.

It is not perhaps unknown to you that for the last three decades I am fighting for an effective probe to find out the facts about Netaji's

1992-5 Feb/90

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RC. SAMAR GUHA
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



-2-

destiny. I have presented my documentary book - 'Netaji - Dead of Alive' to you. It was on the basis of the documents produced in this book that Shri Morarji Desai, as Janata Prime Minister, officially rejected the findings of Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission as unacceptable.

I hope to meet you soon in Delhi to place my plan for Investigative Netaji Inquiry.

India must know finally where did Netaji go after the fall of Japan and what happened to him thereafter.

Dear Prime Minister ! India owes an irrepayble debt to our greatest national hero but for whose total sacrifice and absolute revolutionary plunge, India would not have achieved freedom so soon after the Allied Victory in the last Great War. Indian people believe, you will do your best to find out the ultimate destiny of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

With regards and namaskar,

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha
(SAMAR GUHA)

346 4544-25(EA)/90
31/7/90

Most Immediate

Ministry of External Affairs
AS(POL)'s Office

Reference PMO U.O. No. 870/11/P/17/90-Pol.
dated 23 July 1990 regarding Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. Papers were marked to JS(EA), Shri Vijay Nambiar
as the subject pertains to that Division and further enquiries
may kindly be made on them.


496/DS(EA)/90
8/8

(I.P. Khosla)
Addl. Secretary(POL)

Director (PMO) (Smt. Meera Shankar)
MEA I.D. NO. 5262-AS(POL)/90 dated 30 July 1990

Have the
earlier papers
been marked to
me? I'll check

✓ Copy with U.O. under reference to JS(EA).


o/c (I.P. Khosla)
Addl. Secretary(POL)
30.7.1990

by
31/7

DS(EA)

~~the end~~

H. elicited later
portion from
E.S. Div. We shall

then put up
papers for P.D.O. by
#8

DS(EA)

marked F on the sketch II.

but in this case, the tail was not lifted off the ground until it had run approximately 3/4th down the runway to point E marked in the sketch I. At that time I was standing at a pt. This was about 300 meters away from the air strip. About 50 meters before the end of the runway, the plane took off and made a steep ascent. Immediately on taking off, the plane tilted to its left side and I saw something falling down from the plane, which I later found, was the propeller. Later when I went on the spot, I found that a whole propeller had fallen down from the plane. At the place where I was standing, I considered that the maximum height that the plane had attained was between ~~20 to 30~~ 30 to 40 meters but I think in actual fact it must have been slightly higher. The plane crashed on its left side at the point marked G in sketch I, and it caught fire. The fire started from the front portion of the plane and enveloped almost the entire plane. On seeing this, I immediately jumped on to a Shidosha (a lorry for starting the propeller) which was standing near me and drove straight across the aerodrome to the place where the plane had crashed. The Shidosha was driven by a driver whose name I do not remember. The Shidosha carrying me stopped about 30 meters away from the crashed plane. The distance between the end of the runway and the place of crash was a little more than 100 meters. The place where the crash took place was just inside the boundary of the aerodrome. About 30 of my men who were standing at point marked H in sketch I on the left side of the runway on seeing the crash, rushed to the spot. These 30 men had helped to fill petrol in the plane and also guided it for taking off.

I could not go near the plane because ammunition that was in the plane was going off. My men seeing me near the plane came towards me. I encouraged them to go near the plane and rescue the people inside. At first, they were scared of the ammunition going off but in spite of that I encouraged them to go near the plane and rescue the people. The ammunition that was going off was ammunition of the machine-gun. The plane was intact and the body was not broken. I am sure that the whole plane was intact but the tail-end was free from fire. On my encouragement, my men following me rushed to the plane to rescue the people inside. Since the front portion of the plane was on fire, we rescued the passengers through a normal door shown as A in Sketch II. All my men were concentrated in front of this door. I do not remember the order in which the passengers came out. Some persons rushed out by themselves by that door. Col. Habibur Rehman was the last but one to come out of the plane and Mr. Bose was the last person to come out of the plane. Mr. Bose walked out of the plane and when he was a few yards away from the plane, Col. Rehman came running and pointing to him said " Bose Kakka, Bose Kakka" (Excellency). Col. Rehman's one side of the face above the cheek bone and fore-head were burnt.

I did not see Col. Rehman bleeding. When Col. Rehman pointed out Mr. Bose to us, he was standing within the reach of flames. We rushed to him through the flames and pulled him out of the flames. He fell on his back. Mr. Bose's clothes had been splashed with petrol and it caught fire. I and my three men took off his coat. Mr. Bose was lying on his back on the ground when we took off his coat. We stripped him of all his clothings. Mr. Bose while lying on the ground was talking something but I do not know what it was about. We found Mr. Bose lying on his back and moving his hands at point B enveloped in flames. We removed him to point C approximately 50 meters away from point B. It was at point C that we stripped him of all his clothings. I ordered one of my men to bring a blanket from a spot marked H in sketch I. At this place, blankets had been kept under the charge of a sentry. A blanket was accordingly brought. All the other passengers, with the exception of General Shidei, Major Takizawa and Sub-officer Aoyagi^K had been rescued. Some of my men while rushing to the plane from point H had taken a truck there. Others had run on foot. From the site of the accident all the injured persons including Mr. Bose and Col. Rehman, were taken to the hospital in one small Army truck which was manufactured by Toyota Automobile Co. Since

Mr. Bose was very severely burnt, we did not lay him on the floor of the truck but Mr. Bose's body was rested on the thighs of three men who were squatting in the lorry. Mr. Bose had severe burns all over his body specially the front portion of his abdomen and chest; in fact the whole of his body above his knees was badly burnt. There was no blood coming out from his body anywhere. The whole of his face was badly burnt. On some places which were very severely burnt, skin was falling out. In some portions, the skin had blisters. The colour of skin was red^dish. Before Mr. Bose was put into the truck and before a blanket was brought by one of my men, he was lying on an overall which had been spread on the ground for him. After the blanket arrived, we wrapped this blanket round Mr. Bose's body and put him in the truck with this blanket wrapped round him. His face was not covered in the blanket. I was not one of the persons who carried him on their thighs to the hospital, in the truck. I remember Mr. Bose saying Mizo Mizo in the truck. I was on the same truck although I was not one of the persons on whose thighs he was resting. As far as I remember he still had hair on his head and the hair was not burnt as he had his cap on. I do not know what happened to the

Shidosha. It must have been driven away by one of my men to the depot which was at point H. The Shidosha did not go to the hospital. The hospital where we took Mr. Bose was about 5 kilometers from the aerodrome. The name of the hospital was Taihoku Military Hospital. I did not know who was the officer-in-charge of this hospital but when we went there, I saw Lt. Yoshimi there. As we were engaged in rescue work at the aerodrome, I did not inform any body by telephone from the aerodrome about the accident. All the injured persons were carried from the aerodrome to the hospital in the same truck. Their names are:-

Lt. Col. Nonogaki.
Lt. Col. Sakai.
Sergeant Okshita,
Mr. Bose,
Col. Habibur Rehman.

There was no other injured person in the truck besides them. When we took these 5 injured persons to the hospital, the wreckage of the plane was still on fire. There were 3 persons including General Shidei, Pilot Aoyagi and Major Takizawa who could not get out of the plane. Before leaving the hospital, Lt. Col. Nonogaki told me that Mr. Bose's articles had dropped out of the plane. I accordingly came to the wrecked plane where I found three bodies with all the flesh burnt but

only the portion round the navel existing along with their bones. The charred bones of these three dead bodies were put in three separate wooden boxes. We dug the ground and buried the entrails. After putting the bones in small wooden boxes, we placed them in the Hongaju temple. This was about 1½ hours after we had left the place of accident for the hospital with the injured persons. Lt. Col. Nonogaki told me that Mr. Bose had brought gold and necklaces etc. with him and he asked me to collect the same from the site of the crashed plane. When I returned to the burnt out wreckage of the crashed aeroplane, I saw Major Sakai's men already engaged in collecting from the wreckage, charred ornaments which belonged to Mr. Bose. (Major Sakai was the Battalion Commander of the Aerodrome).

Question by Mr. Bose. What became of the left engine?

Reply: The left engine did not fall down.

Question: When the plane was burnt, did Col. Rehman take off Mr. Bose's dress.

Reply: Since Col. Rehman was himself injured, he did not take off Mr. Bose's clothes or touch his body. All the belongings of Mr. Bose collected from the wreckage of the plane were put

in a 18 litre gasoline tin can. It was an ordinary tin can. Among the belongings of Mr. Bose were many articles looking like necklaces, medals and rings. All these were charred and blackened. There were also spurs of his boots. There were no gold bars among these articles. I did not see any precious stones. When I returned to the wreckage of the plane from the hospital, I saw Major Sakai's men collecting the articles under the supervision of Lt. Yamashida. Of the men who were collecting Mr. Bose's belongings 15 belonged to Major Sakai's unit and 5 men belonged to my unit. I was present throughout the collection of these articles. The can was nearly full up to the lid and about 10 strips of paper running down vertically were put on the lid and the tin sealed with Major Sakai's seals. These seals were put by Major Sakai himself who had arrived in the meantime just ^{when} we were about to finish putting the ornaments in the can. I do not know exactly at what time Major Sakai arrived at the scene of the collection. I only noticed him after Lt. Yamashida's men had finished collection and we were about to close the lid. After all the articles had been put in the tin can, Major Sakai sealed them in the manner described before with his own seal.

The Oil tin can was sealed by Major Sakai at point H and then removed to the underground air shelters. The air shelters situated at point H were spacious underground shelters where we could carry on our normal duties even when a raid was on. The can was put in this shelter for 4 or 5 days. A day and night guard of 8 persons was put over this can. The guards did not have rifles but had ^{bayonets} bennets. The shelter in which this can was kept, was prohibited for entry to any other person. The guard was standing at the entrance of the shelter. His duty was to look after the can as well to look out for enemy planes. 4 or 5 days later, Major Nagatomo telephoned to me from the HQ and ordered me to bring the can to the HQ. I took it to the HQ on the Shidosha. I went and reported to Major Nagatomo who ordered me to go and deliver the can to Lt. Col. Shibuya, Staff Officer. With the delivery of the can to Lt. Col. Shibuya, my job as far as this accident was concerned, was over.

Question by the Chairman. Did you hear anything more about Mr. Bose, what happened to this can and also whether you went to the hospital again and what happened to those patients.

Reply: The day after the plane crash

I went to the hospital to deliver certain articles belonging to Lt. Col. Sakai, Lt. Col. Nonogaki and Sergeant Okshita. I first went to the Taihoku Military Hospital where I had left the injured persons the previous day but not finding them there, I went to Hokuto Branch where I delivered the articles to them. Hokuto Branch was about 25 kilometers from the Taihoku Military Hospital. I never saw that can containing Mr. Bose's belongings again. The next day when I went to the hospital I learnt that Mr. Bose had expired. I did not see the dead body of Mr. Bose as I was not allowed to go near.

Question: Will you tell us what type of plane it was that had crashed at Taihoku?

Reply: It was a twine-engined 97 type heavy bomber.

Question: Have you seen many bombers of this type?

Reply: Every day I was seeing this type of bombers.

Question: In this type of bomber, normally at which place is the entrance for getting inside the plane?

Reply: In this type of bomber, there are no entrances for passengers. The pilots generally enter the plane below the wings from points marked D and E on sketch II. There are openings

on both sides of the plane marked A and F in sketch II, through which bombs are taken inside the plane and put on the rack.

Question by Mr. Bose. Why was there no entrance for passengers in these bomber^{s?}

Reply: As no passengers are allowed in these bombers, no entrances for passengers are made.

Question by the Chairman. Since this bomber carried 10 or 12 passengers, through which entrance did they enter the bomber?

Reply: At Taihoku aerodrome, all the passengers entered the plane from the left side.

Question: Was any ladder put, i.e. how they got into the plane?

Reply: There was a two step stool placed on the side of the plane with the help of which the passengers climbed in.

Question: I put it to you that Mr. Bose climbed out of opening at F and not through A. Is not so?

Reply: No, I am sure Mr. Bose came out of the opening at A and not at F in sketch II.

Question: by Mr. Bose. Did you say earlier that Mr. Bose gave his gold wrist watch and ~~hand~~^{gold} wrist band to some body at the hospital?

Reply: Yes I said that. About that matter, please ask Dr. Yoshimi. I heard this from

some body whose name I do not recollect.

Question: Do you remember that the wrist watch was a round one or of any other shape?

Reply: When I rescued Mr. Bose, I saw that it was a gold round wrist watch of big size and which he was wearing.

Question: When Mr. Bose was carried from the truck to the hospital, was he carried by men on a stretcher and whether he was wrapped up in a blanket.

Reply: He was wrapped up in a blanket and held in the arms of my men about 4 or 5 in number since he was heavy, and not carried on a stretcher. The whole time he was asking for water.

Question by the Chairman. Where did they take him on their arms?

Reply: Mr. Bose was taken to the treatment bed and my men brought back the blanket.

Question: When you took out the blanket, was Mr. Bose absolutely naked?

Reply: After we took away the blanket, Mr. Bose was left on the treatment bed absolutely naked.

Interpreted by Mr.

Admitted correct.

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Statement by Dr. Taneyoshi Yoshimi, Takajocho Miyasaki-ken, Japan, recorded on 22nd May 1956 at 12-15 P.M. and 2-30 P.M. and on 23rd May 1956 at 10-30 A.M, at Tokyo.

At about the time when the last war ended, I was working as an officer-in-charge, Nanmon Military Hospital, Taihoku. My rank was that of an army Captain. I graduated as a medical student from the Taihoku Imperial Medical University in March 1938. I specialised in Surgery. I was commissioned in May 1940 and was posted in the same hospital at Taihoku. In the Nanmon hospital, I had two other medical officers under me. Their names are Dr. Tsuruta and Dr. Goto. There were six or seven nurses and about 30 medical orderlies. Of the nurses 4 were Japanese and 2 Formosan. Their names are as follows:-

1. Nakano,
2. Ohama.
3. Tomimoto.
4. Nishimoto.

These four were Japanese.

5. Scha.
6. Ching.

Both these were Formosan.

I have no idea as to their present whereabouts.

A sketch map showing the details of the wards, etc. in the hospital made by me (Dr. Yoshimi) is marked A and attached. In the 4 general

wards, we could accommodate 80 patients and 15 in the infectious ward. Both medical and surgical cases used to be treated in this hospital but serious cases used to be sent after giving initial treatment to the bigger hospitals which were located at some distance in the hills. This hospital was situated at a distance of 6 kilometers from the Taihoku aerodrome.

I remember that soon after the surrender of the Japanese, there was a serious air-craft accident at Taihoku, details of which I give below.

I received a phone message from the air-field on the 18th August 1945 at about 2 P.M. that there had been an air accident involving a number of persons. I was asked to be present at the hospital in readiness for receiving them. The names or number of the injured persons were not conveyed to me at that time. On receipt of this information over the telephone, I made preparations for receiving all the patients. About 20 minutes after the telephone call, 3 motor vehicles carrying the injured persons came to the hospital. One of these vehicles was a "Shidosha" which is used for starting the propeller of the plane. Mr. Bose was brought in the "Shidosha". A

blanket was spread in that vehicle and Mr. Bose was lying flat on his bed. As far as I can remember, only Mr. Bose was in that vehicle. This car was the first to arrive at the hospital. When Mr. Bose arrived at the hospital, he was absolutely naked. When the car carrying Mr. Bose arrived at the hospital, I was standing at the main entrance shown in the sketch. The nursing orderlies were also waiting with a stretcher at the main entrance with me.

The first injured person to arrive at the hospital was a big-built man. He was not a Japanese. At that time I did not know who he was. From the main entrance to ward No. 2, shown in the sketch, he was carried by 8 nursing orderlies. Just behind the vehicle carrying Mr. Bose arrived, another car in which was seated a Staff Officer from the Military Headquarters, Formosa. This Staff Officer came running to me and told me that one of the injured persons was Mr. Bose, who had sustained very severe burns and that he should be treated first and with great attention. I asked him which one of the persons was Mr. Bose. He told me that the first person to be taken off from the vehicle was Mr. Bose.

The Staff Officer told me that Mr. Bose was a very great man whose life must be saved by every possible means. As soon as Mr. Bose was put on the stretcher and taken away from the main entrance and I was told about his identity, I accompanied him to the dressing room attached to ward No. 2 shown in the sketch. While I was standing at the main entrance I saw 3 vehicles, the first one a "Shidosha" carrying Netaji Bose, the second a car carrying the Staff Officer and the third a lorry carrying about 12 or 13 injured persons. As soon as Mr. Bose was taken off the truck and carried to the dressing room, I followed him there. The other injured persons were brought in later. All the other injured persons were taken to the dressing room attached to ward No. 1. When Mr. Bose was brought in and examined, I found that he was severely burnt all over his body and all of it had taken on a greyish colour like ash. Even his heart had got burnt. His face was swollen. In my opinion, his burns were of the severest type, that is of the third degree. There was no injury on his body from which blood came out.. His eyes were also swollen. He could see but had difficulty in

opening them. He was in his senses when he was brought in. He was in high fever; his temperature was 39° centigrade. His pulse rate was 120 per minute. The condition of his heart was also weak. Dr. Tsuruta applied white ointment against burns all over his body. I gave him for his heart one after the other 4 injections of Vitacamphor and 2 injections of Digitamine. I also gave him 3 injections of Ringer Solution, 500 c.c. each one after the other. This was given intravenous. In the dressing room, Mr. Bose was taken off the stretcher and put on a bed. There Dr. Tsuruta applied white ointment all over his burns and bandaged. While this was being done I gave Mr. Bose some injections. After his dressing was over, the bed on which he was lying down was carried to the attached ward No. 2 and placed at a position shown in the sketch. The bed of his Adjutant was next to his. The relative position of their beds is shown in the sketch.

In case of severe burns of the third degree, the blood gets thicker and there is high pressure of the heart. In order to relieve this pressure, usually blood is let out and new blood given in its place. In the case of Mr. Bose, I let out approximately 200 c.c.

of his blood and transfused 400 c.c. of blood into him. This blood was obtained at Nanmon hospital from a Japanese soldier. This blood transfusion was given between 4 and 5 P.M. that day. I do not remember the name of the Japanese soldier but the type of his blood was 'O'. Then Mr. Bose was given Sulfonamide injection to prevent infection. After administering this injection, all that should have been done, was done, and from then onwards Dr. Tsuruta was attending to him. On this treatment being given to Mr. Bose, his reaction was favourable and he took a turn for the better. During and after the treatment that was being given to him in the hospital, the following persons were present:-

1. An Interpreter by the name of Mr. Nakamura (He came from the headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief of the Formosa Army).
not Army
2. 2 nurses - Chief nurse, Nakano and another one whose name I do not remember. Both the nurses were Japanese.
3. Dr. Tsuruta.
4. Mr. Bose's Adjutant, Mr. Rehman.

After completing the treatment of Mr. Bose, I left the room to attend to other patients but I kept looking in from time to time. I remember

that as Mr. Bose was brought in and I was going to attend to him, He told me that his condition was not so serious and that other injured persons should be attended to first. Since the condition of Mr. Bose was the most serious of all, I treated him first. Three or four times, Mr. Bose asked for water in Japanese (Mizu). He was given just a little water to moisten his mouth. My own impression was that Mr. Bose's condition was so serious that he would not survive till the next morning. I, therefore, asked his Adjutant through the Interpreter to ask Mr. Bose if he had any message to give. After that Mr. Bose and his Adjutant were talking to each other in a very low voice. I do not know what the talk was about. I instructed Dr. Tsuruta to continue giving Vita-camphor injections to Mr. Bose at 30 minutes interval. I instructed Dr. Tsuruta also to keep me informed about the condition of Mr. Bose specially if it took a turn for the worse. After leaving Mr. Bose's room, I came to ward No. 1 where I attended to the Japanese injured persons. Of the injured Japanese officers, whom I attended, I remember the names of the following:-

Sub-Officer Aoyagi, Assistant Pilot.

Major Kawano, Staff Officer.

Lt.Col. Nonogaki, Staff Officer.

Captain or Major Sakai.

Besides, there were 5 or 6 other persons whose names I do not remember now. I do not think there was any body higher in rank than a Lt. Col. The pilot was also there but I do not remember his name. The condition of the Assistant pilot of was also very serious. Both them died one week later. The pilot and the co-pilot were treated in our hospital for about 3 days after which they were sent to another Air Force hospital where, I heard, they died. This hospital was at a distance of 14 or 15 kilometers from our hospital. The name of the Air Force hospital was Hokuto hospital.

Col. Rehman had burn on his face but I cannot remember on which side of the face it was. Whichever side of the face was burnt, the top of the opposite hand also showed marks of burns. He had a cut on his ~~head~~ right ^{face temple} chin which was bleeding. Disinfectant was put on the cut and white ointment on the burn. Injured parts were banded. As far as I remember, only one

hand of Mr. Rehman was burnt. The pilot received severe burns above his neck and both his fore-arms were also burnt. Mr. Aoyagi, the co-pilot, suffered similar burns above his shoulders. His fore-arms were also burnt and the legs below his knees were also burnt. All these burns were caused by the splashing of petrol on the bodies of the injured persons. Netaji Bose's body was similarly splashed with petrol.

I heard later that General Shidei was similarly splashed with petrol and died inside the plane. I never saw his body; his body was never brought to the hospital. Major Kawano had third degree burns on his hands and ^{Lt.} Col. Nonogaki did not have any burn or injury over his body. Col. Sakai had burns over his hands.

At about 7 or 7-30 P.M. I was informed by Dr. Tsuruta that the condition of Mr. Bose had deteriorated and that his pulse was very weak. I hurried to the room and gave Mr. Bose Vita-camphor and Digitamine injections, but it appeared to me that he was losing consciousness. He did not speak to me. His pulse

and heart beats were very slow. I continued to administer these heart injections to him but without any effect and his condition continued to grow worse. At that time, he did not give any reply to the conversations of his Adjutant and the Interpreter. It was shortly after 8 P.M. that Mr. Bose breathed his last. I tried to give artificial respiration to him, but it was of no use. At the time when Netaji Bose breathed his last, the following were present:-

Myself (Dr. Yoshimi),

Dr. Tsuruta,

Those two Japanese nurses,

Mr. Nakamura (Interpreter)

Col. Nonogaki,

One Military policeman who did not have a rifle but had a belt and a sword.

Col.

Mr. Rehman, Netaji Bose's Adjutant.

Col. Rehman was extremely grieved at his death and tears were rolling down his eyes. The nurses were also crying loudly. In fact, everybody present in that room was crying.

I telephoned to the headquarters of the Formosan Army and conveyed this sad news to them. The same night, two Staff

Officers from the headquarters came. They were followed by several other persons from the headquarters.

I did not know any one of them. They were all strangers to me. The same night, one platoon as a military guard, arrived at the hospital.

The same night also, the Adjutant to the Commander-in-Chief came to the hospital and instructed me to give Formalene injections to the body to ensure that the body would not decompose. I did not know the reason why he asked me to give Formalene injections to the body but he asked me to keep the body as it was as long as it was possible.

The dead body of Mr. Bose was removed to one corner of the same room, shown in the sketch, and a screen was put in front of his body. Flowers and candles were placed by the side of the body.

Statement of Dr. Yoshimi
continued: 10-30 A.M. on
23rd May 1956.

During the night,
vigilance was kept over his body and
those who came there were Lt. Col.
Staff Officer belonging to the Headquar-
ters, Formosan Army, one Captain with
16 Military guards and two men from the
Military police.

I had my supper at about
11 P.M. that night in the dining room
which was situated just behind the
Offices. After that, I came to my room
in the Offices *where I wanted to sleep for* where I slept for the
night. Since the body of Mr. Bose
after his death was handed over to the
guards, no doctor visited the portion
of the room screened off for Mr. Bose's
body. After Mr. Bose's death, we were
busy attending to the other injured
persons who were in great pain. That
night, we hardly slept as we were
continuously summoned to the injured
persons' ward. Dr. Tsuruta and I
were continuously paying visits to
that ward. At night, I used to sleep
in C.M.O's room in the Offices Section
and Dr. Tsuruta used to sleep in the
dressing room attached to general ward
No. 4. On the 19th, I gave treatment
to the Japanese injured officers and
Col. Rehman. As far as I remember,
on the morning of 20th of August, the

body was taken away from the hospital by the Captain and the guard that was posted there on the 18th. A Military truck as shown in the sketch came near the room where Mr. Bose's body was kept. The coffin was placed in the truck and carried away. I am not quite sure whether the date was 20th. The coffin in which Mr. Bose's body was placed was a wooden coffin and was covered in white cloth. A coffin of normal size was brought to the hospital on 19th but it was found that it was too small to contain Mr. Bose's body. Accordingly, another coffin of a bigger size was brought 4 or 5 hours later. His body was placed in the coffin on the 19th. A photograph was taken of the coffin after it had been nailed down and put on a raised dais. I understand that the photographer had been sent by the Army Hqs. So far as I know no photograph of the dead body was taken at any time.

Question by the Chairman: Can you give any reason why no photograph of the dead body was taken?

Reply: According to the Japanese custom, dead bodies are not supposed to be kept exposed and no photographs are taken.

On the 18th of August, I

had issued a medical certificate of death in respect of the deceased person writing his name in Japanese (Khata Khana) as "Chandra Bose" and giving the cause of death as "burns of the third degree". I handed over the certificate to the Captain in charge of the guard. There was a diary kept in which in the hospital/records of all patients were kept. Such a record was maintained for Mr. Bose and there ~~waxx~~ his death was also recorded. The recording was done either by myself or Dr. Tsuruta giving details of every treatment carried out. I do not know what happened to the hospital records after the war. I left the hospital and came away from Formosa on the 21st of January 1946. On the same day I was arrested by the American Military authorities and sent to prison in Shanghai. I was kept in Shanghai for about 5 months. Later I was taken to Hong Kong and put in Stanley Jail. I remained there for 5 years and was then transferred to Sugama prison in Tokyo. I was released from jail in ^{October} December 1951. The reason why I was kept in prison for so long was that the Allied ~~prisoners~~ prisoners of war including General Percival and others were brought to Formosa. They had some Medical officers ~~with them~~

amongst them. They demanded medicines which were not in my stock. They thought that I had withheld medicines for them and not given proper medical aid to the Allied prisoners of war.

Questions by Mr. Bose.

Was Mr. Bose alive in the hospital for about 6 hours?

Reply: Yes.

Did the Military Headquarters at Formosa know that Mr. Bose was severely burnt?

Reply: The Military Headquarters at Formosa came to know about his serious condition after 30 minutes of his being brought to the hospital.

Were they also informed that Mr. Bose would not survive till the next morning?

Reply: As soon as the main examination of Mr. Bose was finished, I informed Lt. Col. Nonogaki who was also in that hospital that Mr. Bose would not survive till the next morning. I also gave the same information to the Military HQ by telephone.

Does everybody know the Japanese custom that no photograph is taken of dead bodies?

Reply: Every body in Japan knows that their custom is not to take photographs of dead bodies. Only in exceptional

cases namely street and other accidents, the Police only take photos of dead bodies.

Could you give any reason why the Military authorities did not send a photographer to take Mr. Bose's photo when he was alive and before he died?

Reply: In my opinion, as the Japanese had surrendered only three days ago, there was a state of confusion and despondency all over and so they probably omitted to send the photographer.

Do you think that this state of despondency disappeared when they sent the photographer after a day or so?

Reply: The Military authorities sent the photographer on the 19th after the body had been put on the dais.

Questions by Chairman.

When you had given the main treatment after the examination, what did his ~~dead~~ body look like, particularly his eyes?

Reply: The only portion of his face which was visible after it had been properly bandaged were his eyes, nose and the mouth and no other portion of his face was visible.

After his death, were the bandages taken out?

Reply: After his death, the bandages which had become dirty, were replaced by new ones and a white cloth was put over the body.

Was there any swelling on his face when he died?

Reply: When he died, his face was swollen. The face had not become disfigured but it was swollen.

When Mr. Bose was first brought in, you said that he was absolutely naked.

Reply: Yes.

Did he have anything on his body other than the clothes, for instance a ring or a watch?

Reply: I do not remember.

After the death of Mr. Bose, did any high-ranking Military officers come to the hospital from the HQ?

Reply: On the morning of the 19th, the Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in Formosa, General Ando, and Chief of the General Staff, General Isayama, came to the hospital. They were followed by many other Staff officers.

Did you know where they took the body?

I did not go the crematorium.

I heard that they had taken it to the crematorium.

When the truck came on the 20th, did any Military officers ~~at that time~~ ^{come with it} come?

Reply: Yes, some staff officers came in two cars. I do not remember their names.

Can you tell us when the Adjutant, Col. Habibur Rehman, left your hospital?

Reply: Col. Rehman left the hospital with Mr. Bose's body that day. He went by car. He did not return to the hospital after that. He was discharged from the hospital on the same day and the same time. Lt.Col.Nonogaki and one other officer were also discharged on the same day. I do not know where they went to after being discharged from the hospital.

Questions by Shri Maitra.

What happened to the other injured persons?

Reply: The three officers left behind were the Pilot, the Co-pilot and the Wireless Operator. All the three were removed to the Air Force Hospital either on the 20th or the 21st. The Pilot and the Co-pilot died at the Air Force hospital about a week later. Another of the injured persons

died in Nammon hospital either on the 21st or the 22nd. I do not recollect his name.

Do you have any knowledge about the remains of Mr. Bose?

Reply: I only heard that his remains after cremation were sent to Tokyo.

What are you doing now?

Reply: I am now a private practitioner in Miagi Pref. in Kyushu. I have a hospital named after me.

Takajōcho Miyazaki

Interpreted by

Admitted correct.

(372)

Statement by Lt. Col. Morio Takakura, Ex-Staff Officer, Imperial General Headquarters, Tokyo: recorded on 21st May 1956 at 3 P.M. at Tokyo.

Present Address: ^{Eisaku-cho} Aefooku-cho-255, Suginamikoo, Tokyo.

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During the war and at the time of the Japanese surrender, I was working as a Staff Officer in the Political Branch of the Imperial General Headquarters, Tokyo. On 21st August 1945 when I returned to Tokyo after meeting General McArthur at Manila, I learnt that a plane carrying General Shidei and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, had crashed at Taihoku aerodrome in Formosa on 18th August. On 25th or 26th I learnt at the Headquarters that the plane that had crashed at Taihoku, was bound for Manchuria from where Netaji had intended going to Russia. (The witness was referring to a diary written by himself in 1945). When I returned from Manila on 21st of August, I saw at the Headquarters several telegrams which had been received from the headquarters of the Formosan Army regarding the air-crash at Taihoku. I do not remember the contents of the telegrams separately. These were destroyed after the surrender but I remember that one of the telegrams contained the information that General Shidei and one of the crew were killed during the air crash. Another telegram stated that Netaji and his Adjutant had been badly burnt and that Col. Sakai and Col. Nonogaki had been injured. There was

Lt. Col. Lt. Col.

information about some others too but the details of that I do not remember.

There was another telegram which stated that Netaji had expired in the hospital during the night on the same day that the plane crash took place. I do not remember if there were any other telegrams besides these.

The next I heard about Netaji was from Col. Habibur Rehman when I met him in our Headquarters in Tokyo. Netaji's ashes had arrived at the headquarters before Col. Rehman who had had his bandage dressed at the residence of Mr. Murti and then come to the headquarters. The ashes were brought from Taiwan by Lt. Col. Sakai. He came via Fukuoka where he picked up three or four soldiers as an escort and reported to the Imperial General Headquarters on the night of 7th September. The ashes were made over by Lt. Col. Sakai to the Duty Officer, Major Kinoshita. Major Kinoshita received from Lt. Col. Sakai two boxes- one of them was said to contain ashes. I do not know what the other box contained. The Duty Officer, on receipt of these boxes, took them in his custody and put an armed guard over them. The guard was changed every two hours. I received the boxes from the Duty Officer, Major Kinoshita at 8 A.M. on the 8th of September. There was no written entry regarding the taking of these boxes into custody. About the boxes I do not remember all the details; so far as I recollect, they

were nailed down wooden boxes about a foot square, whitish in colour and covered with cloth. In the morning after I had taken charge of these boxes, I called other officers of the headquarters and we all paid our respects to Netaji's ashes.

I then telephoned to Mr. Murti, President of the I.I.L., Tokyo, and asked him to report to the headquarters to take custody of the ashes. I also arranged a car for Mr. Murti. About half an hour after my telephone call, Mr. Murti accompanied by Mr. Ayer and other Tokyo cadets, arrived at the headquarters. We placed the ashes in a waiting car which drove off with Mr. Murti and Mr. Ayer. I do not know what became of the ashes later on. On 14th of September after performing the ceremony, we placed the ashes in Renkoji temple. The Americans had already landed in Tokyo by then. I was present at the ceremony which was held at the Renkoji temple while placing Netaji's ashes there. I was representing the Imperial General Headquarters, Tokyo, on the occasion, and I had also taken some offerings with me, in accordance with the Japanese custom. This ceremony was organised by the I.I.L., Tokyo. There was a big gathering at the temple. There were in all about 100 people or so, of whom about 10 were Japanese.

I met Col. Sakai soon after the

ashes were received. He was also posted at the same Imperial General Headquarters in a different section. I did not have any talk with him regarding Netaji at that time.

Question by Chairman: When you handed over Netaji's ashes to Mr. Murti, did you also hand over the other box to him?

Reply: Yes, both the boxes were handed over together to Mr. Murti.

Interpreted by Mr. *T.* Rahman.

Admitted correct.

Extracts concerning Netaji Bose from the
Diary of 1945 of Col. Morio Takakura of
Japanese Imperial HQ Tokyo.

June 17

I met Mr. T between 2400 -0300 at the
office of Hikari Kikan in Bangkok whom I conveyed the
intention of the Chief of General Staff regarding the
decisive battle in Southern District.

August 18

Mr. Bose died of an aeroplane accident. Very
astonished.

September 7.

Mr. Bose's ashes reached the Army Ministry and
were laid in state at the altar of "war heroes' spirits".

September 8.

Mr. Bose's ashes were handed over to the Indian
Independence League.

September 14.

A funeral service for Mr. Bose was held (secretly)
at the Renkoji Temple. I attended it as a proxy for Army
Minister.

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I, hereby, certify that the above translation into
English from the original statement by Mr. Morio Takakura
was made by me to the best of my knowledge.

26th May, 1956.


(KIYOSHI KAMIKO)

Translator,
Embassy of India in Japan,
Tokyo.

Ihahho

Statement by Major Takahashi Ihahho, Kanagawa Ken Zushi Shi 607, Japan, recorded on 17th May at 3 P.M. at Tokyo.

24 TH
at 11 AM

Mr. Daguchi

Mr. Wakizaka,
one of staff officers

On 17th I visited
the Head Quater and then went
to the military Hotel at
Saigon.

Handwritten Japanese notes in a red circle.

Mr. Shigeru

Prior to the war, I was a regular army officer. My rank was that of a Major. During the war, I served in Manchuria, China and Burma. I was a staff officer in the 15th Japanese Army commanded by General ~~Metaguchi~~. I retired from Burma with the rest of our head-quarter in July 1945 to Chiang Ma. We reached Chiang Ma in the beginning of August 1945. In the beginning of August, I received orders for transfer to Cheju Island lying South Korea (Quelpart Island). On receipt of these orders, I proceeded by aeroplane to Bangkok reaching there on 13th or 14th of August. On 15th or 16th of August I reached Saigon by plane. On 17th I visited the Military Hotel at Saigon. The arrangement for my transport from Saigon onwards was made by Major who was a Staff Officer on the staff of the Southern Army. I was informed in the afternoon of the 17th, I think it was about 2 P.M., about the plane that was to take me from Saigon. As far as I can remember, I arrived at the aerodrome between 3 and 3-30 P.M. The plane was standing on the aerodrome

at that time. On the aerodrome
I saw the undermentioned persons:-

General Shidei.

Lt.Col. Nonogaki.

Major Kono.

Lt.Col. Sakai.

There were ~~three or four~~ other
Japanese whose names I do not
remember. Mr. Bose and his
Adjutant were also there. There
were ~~five or six~~ members of the
crew.

When I arrived at the
aerodrome, I met General Shidei
who told me that His Excellency
Mr. Bose was also travelling by the
same plane. At that time Mr. Bose
had not arrived at the aerodrome.
General Shidei could not speak
English; he could speak German.
He told me to sit with him during
the journey as he might require my
~~assistance~~ assistance when
talking to Mr. Bose. Soon after-
wards, we started entering the
plane. By that time, Mr. Bose and
his Adjutant had arrived. The plane
by which we were travelling was
97 type bomber. There were no
chairs inside the plane but a cushi
was provided for Mr. Bose.
Since I was the youngest of the
party I sat in the rear in the
most uncomfortable seat. The best

seats in the plane were provided for General Shidei, Mr. Bose and his Adjutant. Mr. Bose was carrying two boxes with him. These were leather boxes of ordinary average size. These were each about 30" long, about 10" wide and 20" high. The plane took off in the normal manner. The time when the plane took off was either 5 or 6 P.M.

The ultimate destination of the plane was Tokyo. The normal route for all planes flying to Tokyo was via Dairen. The direct flight from Taihoku to Japan could not be undertaken as Okinawa was occupied by the Americans. I knew that General Shidei had been transferred to Manchuria. I do not know whether the plane was to leave him at Dairen and return to Tokyo or to take him further to Manchuria. My own orders were to get off the plane at Dairen and then proceed by rail via Seoul to Mookan by train and from there by steamer to the Island (Quelpart). Soon after sunset probably at about 7 P.M. we arrived in Tourane. All of us stayed in a hotel at Tourane. Mr. Bose was accommodated on the second floor. It was already dark when we arrived at the hotel. We had dinner separately. I did not see Mr. Bose at the hotel.

General Shidei told me that Mr. Bose was putting up on the second floor. At about 5-30 in the morning, we left the hotel. We arrived at the aerodrome at about 7. From there, we flew to Taihoku. We arrived at Taihoku at about 11 A.M. The weather that day was very fine. Since I was sitting right back towards the tail of the plane I could not see the seating arrangements of other people sitting in front. In the rear, Col. Sakai and one other officer was sitting next to me. At Taihoku, we had our lunch and rested in a tent. The plane took off from Taihoku between 12-30 and 1 P.M. The plane had just become air-board when there was an explosion. It tilted to the left side and crashed to the ground in front of the runway. ~~The runway was a short one.~~ The plane took off after it had traversed 3/4th of the ~~xxxxxxx~~ runway from point I on sketch A and it crashed to the ground outside the concrete runway. The place where it crashed had gravel and sand spread on it. The place where the crash took place was inside the boundary of the aerodrome. When the plane crashed, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ it hit the ground on its nose. Then it came to its normal position. ~~When the plane~~

~~xxxxxx~~
~~xxxxxx~~
 The runway ~~is~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~
 standard ~~one~~

When the plane

When the plane hit the ground, I became senseless. When I recovered consciousness, I was lying outside the plane at point II. The plane had caught fire. I had sprained my left ankle and could not walk. Since I could not walk, I crawled on my hands to point III where I saw Lt.Col. Nonogaki. At the point where I met Col. Nonogaki, I learnt that Mr. Bose and General Shidei were still inside the plane. Hearing this I crawled on my hands to point II, i.e. the place where I was before. On reaching there, I saw Mr. Bose getting out of the plane. Mr. Bose got out from the left front portion of the plane. When I first saw Mr. Bose, his clothes were on fire and he was trying to take off his coat. Mr. Bose was wearing uniform of light Khakhi colour. I do not remember whether he was wearing woollen uniform or cotton. Mr. Bose was trying to put out the fire when I went up to him, caught hold of his legs and requested him to lie down ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ and roll on the ground. In this way, we managed to put off the fire from his clothes. I did not see Mr. Bose's Adjutant there. Mr. Bose's clothes were still on his body. Only patches of the clothes on the

The place 10 metres
from where I was before.

I saw some one,
perhaps I think Mr.
Bose's adjutant.

upper part of his body were burnt. The reason for this was that he was sitting next to the petrol tank and his clothes were splashed with gasoline at certain places only. His trousers were burnt slightly. In the meantime, a military truck came and carried away Mr. Bose. I was left behind at the aerodrome. Another lorry came and took me to the hospital. I do not know who was taken to the Hospital first but I was the last to be taken to the hospital from the place of accident. ~~No body~~ had come to put out the fire. General Shidei could not get out of the aeroplane. He died inside the plane. Since the plane had crashed on its nose, all the members of the crew were killed. I learnt this later. When I reached the hospital, other injured persons were already there.

Mr. Bose, Lt.Col.Sakai,
Lt. Col. Nonogaki,
Major Kono and I think
the Adjutant of Mr. Bose.

From the lorry to the dressing room in the hospital I was carried on the shoulders of some person. I was taken to a large room in which there were many beds. All the injured persons were lying on these beds. I was also one of these beds. There were 7 or 8

Some persons

persons in that room. Mr. Bose was first in the same room. I do not know where they took him later. My head and foot injuries were attended to in this room. Later, I was removed to another room. Lt. Col. Nonogaki was also there with me in that room. From 18th to 23rd I stayed in the same hotel. All the injured persons remained in that hospital from 18th to 23rd when I was flown to Fukuoka in Kyushu along with Col. Nonogaki. My left leg gave me trouble for two years and after two years' treatment, it became alright. As far as I remember, Col. Nonogaki told me at Taihoku that Mr. Bose had expired the same night. In the hospital, Col. Nonogaki told me that he had spoken to Mr. Bose through an interpreter. During the course of the talk, Col. Nonogaki had asked Mr. Bose if he had any message to give and whether he can do anything for him. Mr. Bose had replied that he wished that his followers who had been left behind, should be properly looked after. He had also asked for a softer pillow. I do not remember the exact time of the death of Mr. Bose as told to me by Col. Nonogaki, but it was sometime during the

-8-

night. Later on, I heard that Lt. Col. Sakai had flown to Tokyo with the ashes of Mr. Bose.

Since I could not move out of the bed, I did not see the dead body of Mr. Bose. I did not hear anything about Netaji from the doctor or the nurse while I was in the hospital.

I was never interrogated on this accident either by the British, American or the Japanese authorities.

Interpreted by Mr. Rehman.

Admitted correct.

矢野 連 YANO Muraji

鹿児島県 国分市 向花 1751
 KAGOSHIMAKEN KOKUBUSHI MUKA 1751

- Mar 1927 — Graduated from Military Academy
 Oct 1927 — 74th Inf Regt (Hankung, Korea)
 2d Lieutenant (Inf)
 Oct 1930 — 1st Lieutenant (Inf)
 Jun 1932 — Training Corps, Infantry School (Chiba City)
 Mar 1934 — Capt (air)
 Dec 1936 — Graduated from Wai College
 9th Air Regt (Hoeryong, Korea)
 Aug 1937 — 2d Bureau, IGHQ
 Mar 1937 — Maj (air)
 Jun 1941 — Military Assistant Attache to
 Japanese Embassy at Washington (USA)
 Mar 1942 — Lt. Col (air)
 Aug 1942 — Back to Japan by Diplomat Exchange
 Boat
 2d Bureau, IGHQ
 6 Oct 1944 — s/o 2d Section, Southern Army Hq
 (Manila)
 1 May 1945 — Chief of 2d Section, Southern Army Hq
 (Saigon)
 10 Jun 1945 — Col (air)
 [15 Jun 1945 to Dalat]
 15 Aug 1945 — At Saigon
 3 July 1946 — Repatriated
 [28 Jan 1946) C.I.C.D.
 13 Mar ") Singapore]

Statement by Col. Muraji Yano, Kagoshimaken Kokubu Shi Muke 1751, recorded at Tokyo on 18th May 1956 at 10-30 A.M. and 3 P.M.

2 3rd
12 noon

On 1st of May 1945 I was Chief of 2nd Section, Southern Army H.Q. Saigon. on 10th June 1945 I was promoted a full Colonel, and put in charge of Air Branch. On 15th of June 1945 the Command post of the Southern Army moved to Dalat, the main headquarters still remaining at Saigon. I met Mr. Bose for the first time in Tokyo in June 1943 while I was posted as a Staff Officer at the Imperial General Headquarters. Next time I met him at the Imperial Hotel on 10th June. This was during his same visit to Tokyo. On June, the 19th, 1943 he gave a brief interview.

around
10th

press

2d Section

I remember that while I was posted as Chief of No. 2 Division, Southern Army H.Q. Saigon that General Numata, Chief of Staff, Southern Army, told me that he had received a telegram from General Isoda stating that Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose wished to make contact either with China or with Russia to continue his struggle for India's independence in view of the fact that the Japanese were retreating away from India and were not in a position to help him very much. This was either towards the end of July or in the beginning of August 1945. At that time, F.M. Count

Terauchi and all the Staff officers were stationed at Dalat. On the night of 10th of August, we heard a radio broadcast from some foreign station which stated that Japan was ready to surrender. In view of this information, we sent for the leaders of Indonesia, including Dr. Hatta, Mr. Soekarno and Mr. Ramzen. They arrived at Dalat on the 12th. They were handed a declaration for the independence of Indonesia. The declaration was written out and signed by F.M. Count Terauchi.

On 15th August, we heard the Emperor's broadcast about the surrender of Japan. That night F.M. Count Terauchi, General Shidei, General Numata and other Staff Officers had their dinner together at Dalat.

At the dinner table, I received a telegram from Hikari Kikan, Bangkok, informing us that the next day, Mr. Bose would be arriving in Saigon on his way to Japan.

Saigon

General Shidei who had been Chief of the General Staff of the Japanese Army in Burma was under orders of transfer to Manchuria. On the day the Emperor's broadcast regarding surrender came, General Shidei was at our headquarters. The telegram which we had received from the Hikari Kikan, Bangkok, stated that Mr. Bose would be arriving at Saigon while on his way to Tokyo. Mr. Bose was to be accompanied by one Adjutant. When the Emperor's broadcast regarding surrender was heard by us, F.M. Count Terauchi discussed with the rest of his staff and decided that it was better for Mr. Bose to reach Tokyo as soon as possible. I was present at that Conference.

Due to the difficulty in obtaining seats in the plane, the plan was to move Mr. Bose alone to Tokyo. Mr. Bose had desired to go to Russia. F.M. Count Terauchi decided that in the first instance Mr. Bose should visit Tokyo and discuss the matter with the Govt. of Japan and then proceed onwards. The arrangements for Mr. Bose to be flown to Tokyo were made by our headquarters. Since General Shidei wanted to take advantage of that plane, he ~~wanted~~ flew early in the

morning with Staff Officer Tada on 16th August to Saigon. I did not go to Saigon myself but Staff Officer Tada. There was a telephone connection between our headquarters at Dalat and Saigon aerodrome. Our headquarters were informed over the telephone by Staff officer Tada that the plane carrying Netaji and General Shidei had taken off on the same day, i.e. 16th August 1945. I remember having met General Isoda at Dalat but I cannot remember exactly if it was on this occasion. We were informed that the under-mentioned passengers had taken off by the same plane:-

about 5

Mr. Chandra Bose, his Adjutant, General Shidei and 5 other Japanese Military officers, whose names I do not remember.

The arrangements for aeroplane were made by the Air Staff Officer attached to the headquarters at Dalat. He had his agent at Saigon. The allotment of seats in planes was arranged between his agent and the Staff Officer at Dalat over the telephone. I do not know where ~~where~~ this plane came from. I do not remember accurately the exact time when the plane took off from Saigon but I think it was sometime in the morning. These arrangements were looked into by Lt. Col. Kozima, who was also in charge of No. 1 Section. His Agent at Saigon was a Captain whose name I do not recollect. On 17th or 18th we received

Lt. Gen.

a telegram from the Chief of the Staff, Formosan Army, General Ishayama. The telegram ran as follows:-

From: C of S Taiwan Army.

To: C of S Southern Army.

Message- The plane carrying General Shidei had crashed. General Shidei killed. Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose and other injured persons admitted to Military Hospital. "

*Taipei (Taihoku)
Milit. Hospital*

The accident had taken place over Matsuyama aerodrome, Taihoku.

The same telegram was repeated by the Chief of Staff, Formosan Army, to the Chief of Staff, Imperial General Headquarters, Tokyo, and to the Vice War Minister, Tokyo. I do not remember whether the context of this telegram was communicated to the Hikari Kikan. At that time all of us were very much upset on hearing the message of the King Emperor, to surrender. On 18th or 19th when I was at Saigon, I received another telegram from the Chief of Staff, Formosan Army, stating that Mr. Bose who had been seriously injured, couldnot survive and that he had died. This telegram was received at about 10 P.M. After this, I did not receive any further information about Mr. Bose or about his ashes until

I arrived in Tokyo a year and a half later where I learnt about Mr. Bose's ashes and treasure through newspaper reports. It is only last year that I learnt through newspapers that the ashes were kept in Renkoji temple in Tokyo. I have no information about the other officers who were accompanying Mr. Bose.

I was interrogated by CISCD at Singapore.

Major General Prince Kayeen came to Saigon on the 19th of August. He was carrying a message from the Emperor to the Southern Army, the Formosa Army and the Army in Manchuria to carry out surrender peacefully.

I am now attached to the Military Section of the Armed Forces Far East who are studying military methods and organisation - American Army War Department (Pantagon, Washington).

When the first telegram regarding Mr. Bose's intentions of contacting China or Russia were conveyed to us about 15 days before the surrender by General Isoda, Chief of Hikari Kikan, our reaction was one of appreciation since he was a great man and we wanted to assist him.

Question by Mr. Bose. Was it the intention of the Jap. Govt. to remove Netaji to a safe place so that he would

*Southern Army
(Prince Maj. Gen. Kanine)
China Expeditionary Army
(Prince Lt. Gen. Asaka)
Kwantung Army in Manchuria
(Prince Lt. Col. Takeda)*

not fall into the hands of the British or the Americans?

Answer: Yes.

Question by Mr. Bose. Did the request to reach a place of safety come from Mr. Bose or the Government of Japan?

Answer: As far as I know, the Jap. Government were anxious to take him to a place of safety.

The various heads of States who were co-operating with the Jap. Govt.- Dr. Ba Ma had already arrived in Tokyo, Dr. Laurel had been arrested in Philippines by the Occupation Forces, and Mr. Wan Chin Wei had died. Arrangements had been made for the Emperor of Manchuko to be brought to Tokyo but while they were making preparations to fly from Sinkiang, ^{Hsinking} they were arrested by the Russians. We were very anxious to bring back Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and Mr. Seokarno of Indonesia. I do not know what became of Mr. Seokarno.

名城縣本吉郡歌津村
 伊里前 54
 佐藤 勝男

Statement by Mr. Sato-Kazo,
 Mynken-Motoyo Sokea,
 Otachimooru, Tsatomai,
 Goju Kyu Ban, No. 59,
 recorded at Tokyo on 16-5-1956
 at 11 A.M.

During the war, I was serving in 136 Air Unit Taihoku. I was serving in that Unit as a soldier Grade I. My duty was to work as a mechanic on bombers. The main duty of my Unit was to look after maintenance of air-craft and defence of the aerodrome at the time of air-raids by enemy planes. Lt. Yamaguchi Fenzyo was the Coy. Commander and a Col. was in charge of the Battalion. I do not know his name. I was posted at Taihoku aerodrome in September 1944. While I was posted there, there were several plane accidents. I heard of Chandra Bose from newspapers etc.

Two days after the surrender of Japan, we were sitting on the aerodrome and drinking Sake. At about 7 A.M. in the morning, a plane took off. When it had attained a height of approximately 100 meters, the propeller of the engine on the left side of the plane stopped working. The plane dived on its nose and it caught fire immediately. The place where we were sitting and drinking was approximately 200 meters away from the place of plane crash. There were two runways on the airport. The plane took off from the left runway and after it had attained a height of

approximately 100 meters, it crashed on the runway and then dragged itself to some stone and sand piles which were stacked on the left side of the runway. On seeing the plane ablaze all of us ran towards it and stopped approximately 10 meters away from it as it was on fire. Then one senior Military officer told us that the plane which had caught fire was carrying Chandra Bose and he asked us to put out the fire. When the plane crashed, its left wing was broken and it was tilted on one side. The tail was attached to the plane. The main body of the plane was on fire but there was no fire towards the tail side. When we first went near the plane, no Japanese had got out of the plane. I saw one tall well-built man open the door and jumped out. I thought it was the same person as Chandra Bose. The first man who jumped out of the plane was alright and was standing erect. I did not see his clothes were on fire. He was not wearing spectacles. The second person whom we saw struggling in the plane was pulled out by me and my friend whose name was Kitzunai Tezu. He was also a soldier in the same Unit. While the plane was on fire, there were 5 men belonging

to the Military Unit who were standing round it, and there were three soldiers belonging to the Naval Unit. There were also about 30 men from my Unit standing there. There was no officer of the Army, Navy or of my Unit present there.

When the plane was on fire all the men were standing in one place. The man present there did not attempt to put out the fire. We did not go near the plane as the petrol was on fire and it was not possible to approach near it and to put out the petrol fire. At this stage, the witness was shown photographs opposite page 196 in Mr. S.A. Ayer's Book "UNTO HIM A WITNESS". The witness said that the person who came out of the plane first, resembled Shri A. Yellappa. He was wearing a uniform resembling that of the Americans and had no head dress on. He was also wearing a big round wrist watch. Later, the witness was shown a picture of Netaji opposite page 210 of the same book. The witness stated that the first man who came out of the plane had more resemblance with this picture. The witness was not however sure about the resemblance as the second picture showed a side face and the first picture a front face. The man who got out first and the second person whom we pulled out of the plane, who was a Japanese, were talking to

each other.

A small military car arrived on the scene after about 5 minutes and both these persons were taken away in it by the military soldiers. I do not know what became of them afterwards. I did not see any other injured persons being taken away. When the fire had gone down and smoke was coming out, I returned to my Unit. I did not see any other vehicles, as I was standing near the plane. I did not see any more military personnel coming to the aerodrome. I did not know when the wreckage of this burnt plane was removed from the runway.

This is the first time that I have been interrogated by anybody regarding this accident.

The Unit to which I belonged had three sections with a total of 360 men. Our barracks were inside the boundary of the aerodrome.

I read about the Netaji Enquiry Commission in the newspaper and I wrote a letter to them of my own accord.

Interpreted by Mr. Rehman.

Admitted correct.

Statement by Major Jaro Kono,
No. 552, Asagaya-2, Suginamiker,
Tokyo, recorded on 16th May at
3 P.M. at Tokyo.

24th
21st
1st 2-3 PM

Selabo

At present, I am engaged in printing business in Tokyo. I was a regular officer of the Japanese Army. I was commissioned in the year 1937. At the outbreak of the war, I was first posted to the 7th Air Force Division at Makassar in Celebes Island. Later I was moved to Malang in Java. I was a staff officer with the rank of a Major. While I was at Malang, we lost all our aeroplanes due to enemy action and the Unit was disbanded. I was ordered to be transferred to Tokyo. I left Malang on 31st July 1945. I was transported to Saigon via Djakarta and Singapore, arriving in Saigon on 3rd or 4th of August. The plane by which I travelled from ~~Malang~~ Malang to Singapore returned to Malang. From Singapore to Saigon I was transported by an aeroplane belonging to the Singapore Air Unit. In Saigon I stayed in the Branch office of the Asai Newspaper. I had a friend in that office. At Saigon I reported to Major Shiakawa who was Air Staff Officer attached to the headquarters of F.M. Terauchi. I stayed in Saigon till the 17th of August. I could not leave earlier due to the difficulty of obtaining a seat in an aeroplane. On the morning of 17th I was informed by Major Shiakawa that a plane was available

and that I could leave for Tokyo that day. The plane was due to take off from Saigon at about mid-day but since it was delayed at Saigon, it actually took off at about 3 P.M. I do not know when the ^{plane} arrived in Saigon. The reason for the delay was that the baggage of Netaji Chandra Bose had not arrived at the aerodrome. I arrived at the aerodrome at about 11 A.M. I do not remember correctly if the plane was already at the aerodrome when I arrived. I remember that the undermentioned persons also arrived at the aerodrome, & boarded the plane:-

1. General Shidei.
2. Lt. Col. Sakai.
3. Major Takahashi.
4. Lt. Col. Nonogaki.
5. Captain Arai.
6. Major Takizawa = Chief Pilot
7. Lt. Aoyagi - Pilot.

In addition to those, there were four other Japanese non-commissioned officers. They were part of the crew. Later, Mr. Chandra Bose and his Adjutant Col. Habibur Rehman also came to the aerodrome. We entered the plane shortly before 3 P.M. Before entering the plane our baggage was sorted out. All our baggage was placed on one side and the baggage of Mr. Chandra Bose and his Adjutant, Col. Rehman, on the other side. At that time, Mr. Bose

and his Adjutant, Col. Rehman were present at the aerodrome. The maximum load that that plane could carry was 1500 kilos. It was a twine-engined bomber of the newest type. As I said before this plane could carry a maximum of 1500 kilos. There were 14 persons with an average weight of 70 kilos per person which was 980 kilos. The remaining 520 kilos was for baggage. This plane belonged to No. 3 Air Force Army stationed at Singapore. It was brought from Singapore by Lt. Aoyagi. It was a plane of 97-2 type. All our surplus baggage was discarded. The whole of Mr. Bose's baggage was put inside the plane. He had two leather suit cases each about 30" long, about 18" high and 9" wide. Besides these boxes, he had another bundle containing clothes. I cannot say whether the covering was of cloth or leather. It might have been a military type of kit bag. It contained warm clothings of Mr. Bose, which could be taken out easily whenever desired. Before emplaning, we discussed the route which the plane was to take. The ultimate destination of the plane was Tokyo. The route that was agreed to was as follows:-

Saigon to Tourane to
Heito (Formosa) to Taipeh
(Taihoku). to Dairen (Manchuria)
to Tokyo.

Nco

Formosa

At Dairen, General Shidei, Mr. Bose and Col. Rehman were to get off the plane. After leaving them there, the same plane was to take off to Tokyo. The seating arrangement inside the plane was as before, as far as I remember it. This is indicated in the sketch marked A. There were 14 persons including the members of crew on board. The plane took off at 3 P.M. The runway at Saigon is 2000 meters long. Our plane had to run down the entire length of the runway to take off. This showed that the plane was overloaded. I am an Air Force Officer myself and have been a pilot. I knew that at the time of taking off, the normal rate of revolutions per minute of the propellers of this type of aeroplane were 2600 and the maximum permissible was 2800 RPM. But when the plane was taking off I looked at the dial and saw that the indicator showed 2850 RPM. This showed clearly that the plane was overloaded and I thought to myself that the load on the plane must be reduced after we reached the next halt. In the plane I was sitting near Mr. Bose. I had a map which Mr. Bose and I consulted on the way during the course of our talk. We arrived at Tourane at about 7 P.M. During our journey from Saigon to Tourane, the plane was flying at a height of approx.

(only 3 minutes)

400

-5-

3000 meters. We were flying at a speed of 230 kilometers per hour. At Tourane aerodrome, we were met by an officer of the Military Police. All of us went to a hotel together. It was a very big hotel situated near the sea-shore. Major Takizawa and I stayed behind at the aerodrome, to see how the load on the plane could be lessened. The same evening we took off 12 anti-aircraft machine guns from the plane and all the ammunition. We took off the machine guns and ammunition in spite of the fact that we apprehended meeting enemy planes on the way. We took the risk in order to lessen the load in the interest of safety. We found some luggage in the bomb rack. We took off that too. The total weight that we took off from the aeroplane including the weight of the machine guns, ammunition and other baggage was approximately 600 kilos. We attended to the maintenance of the aeroplane and after satisfying ourselves that everything was correct, we went to our Hotel. I was about 8-30 P.M. when we reached the Hotel. The first party had dinner together and Major Takizawa and I had dinner separately. After dinner, Mr. Bose retired to his room. His Adjutant came and asked us the time when we were proposing to take off from

Tourane the next morning.

Col. Nonogaki, Major Takizawa, Lt.

Aoyagi and I discussed our plan

for the following day. It was

decided that we should leave Tourane

early in the morning at about 5 A.M.

because if we left later, there was

danger of encountering enemy planes

in the way. We told this to Col. Rehman.

The next morning, all of us went to the

aerodrome before 5 A.M.. We tested the

engine of the plane and sat inside

it in the same order as before. The

plane took off from Tourane at 5 A.M.

At the time of taking off, the plane

was much lighter than it was on the

previous day, and the take off was

perfectly normal. From Tourane we

flew direct to Heito. The weather

was perfect and the engines were

working very smoothly. We sighted

Heito soon after 11 A.M. While we

were flying over Heito, we received

information over the Radio that the

Russian forces had occupied Port Arthur.

General Shidei, Col. Nonogaki, Major

Takizawa and I consulted each other.

All of us reviewed the situation

arising out of Russian occupation of

Port Arthur. We came to the conclusion

that unless we arrived at Dairen very

soon it might be occupied by the

Russians before we landed there.

We, therefore, decided to land at Heito but to push on to Taihoku (Taipoh) and after a short halt there, to Dairen without any delay. Netaji accepted this idea. We arrived at Taihoku aerodrome at about mid-day. During the course of our flight from Tourane to Taihoku, the flight was very smooth and engines worked very well. On landing at Taihoku aerodrome, we sent for the Officer-in-charge. I do not know his name. He was told that we intended taking off from Taihoku at 2 P.M. He was asked to fill up all the petrol tanks. ^{the plane} The machinery of/ was attended to by a mechanic who was stationed at Taihoku. On alighting from the plane, we went to a tent which was pitched on the aerodrome and had our lunch inside that tent. At Taihoku Mr. Bose put on a woollen sweater as he had felt cold while coming from Tourane. Mr. Bose was wearing shoes and trousers and was in military uniform. He was wearing cotton uniform. He was not wearing his top boots and ... There were no chairs in the plane and all the passengers were seated on the floor. A cushion was provided for Mr. Bose to sit on. Before 2 o' Clock, the engine of the plane was tested. Mr. Takizawa tested it inside ~~the~~ the plane and I tested it from outside. I noticed that the engine on the left side of the

(about 2,000 L.)

plane was not functioning properly. I, therefore, went inside the plane and after examining the engine inside, I found it to be working alright. We took off from Taihoku at exactly 2 O' Clock. There was no change in the seating order. An Engineer also accompanies the plane. He was accompanying it on this occasion also. I do not remember his name. He also tested the engine and certified its air-worthiness. The runway of the aerodrome at Taihoku is short. It is only 1600 meters. The plane took off from the aerodrome and reached a height of approximately 30 meters. Then there was a loud explosion and the plane tilted to the right side. I was sitting on the left side and I saw that both the propeller and the engine of that side had fallen off. After tilting to one side, the plane started falling off. I tried to rush forward and switch off the ignition switch to prevent the plane from catching fire, but I could not get there since the plane was descending rapidly and I could not maintain my balance and therefore could not walk forward properly. At that time I saw the Chief Pilot (Major Takizawa) and Lt. Aoyagi struggling very hard to control the plane. In the meantime, the plane

Nco.

crashed on the ground. In trying to reach the ignition switch I fell 2 or 3 times in the plane. Since the propeller and engine on the left side of the plane had fallen off, the plane fell on its right side and its right wing was completely smashed. At a place marked (a) in red pencil on sketch BI, there was a joint where the plane split into two. There was another joint at a place marked (b) also marked in red pencil. At joint (b), the plane bent inwards as shown in sketch BII. At the time of take-off, the speed was 140 kilometers per hour. Since the plane hit the ground, it caught fire. The flames were coming from the right side of the plane from the direction of the engine. As the plane was falling to the ground, the petrol tank inside the plane fell down and came in between me and Mr. Bose. I looked backwards but I could not see Mr. Bose because of this tank. I could see General Shidei after the plane crash. ~~Maxdixdxxx~~ He had a cut injury at the back of his head. Major Takizawa was hit in the face and on forehead by the steering which he was operating. Lt. Aoyagi was hit in the chest which was bleeding and he was leaning forward. There was another Engineer sitting between

Neo

NCO

me and Lt. Aoyagi. I do not know what happened of him. During this time, the fire spread greatly and the heat became unbearable. I broke open the plastic cover on top of the plane and escaped through it. While escaping, the fire was so strong that I had to protect my eyes by covering them with my hands which, as a result, got burnt, and face and legs were also burnt. As I was escaping from the plane, I got splashed by petrol which was coming out from a pipe which connected the petrol tank with the engine which had been brought down. The petrol which was so splashed, caught fire. I ran away about 30 meters and then rolled on the ground and put out the fire; at the same time, I also took off my outer garment which had caught fire. In this way, I managed to put out the fire that was burning on me. At this time, I saw that the plane was enveloped in fire. Only the front portion of the plane was on fire; the tail portion which had broken off, had not caught fire. I was in my senses but lay flat on the ground for about 2 or 3 minutes. At that time, I heard somebody calling Mr. Bose by name. I heard somebody shouting my name too. I do not know who he was.

After one or two minutes, I saw Mr. Bose standing very near the plane shown in red pencil in sketch BII. He was standing facing away from the plane. He was standing erect with his back towards the plane; his legs apart and his arms stretched downwards with clenched fists. At that time, he was completely naked with only his shoes on. I did not see any fire on his body but I remember seeing some light on him. I think I saw blood on his eyes. His face did not show any signs of pain. I was standing about 30 meters away from the plane. Even then, I could feel the heat of the flames.

He was standing very near the plane about one or two meters away from it. I am sure that he must have been feeling the heat much more. After that, somebody ^{him} moved ~~xx~~ away from the plane. I think it was Mr. Rehman who helped him in moving away from the plane. After that, Col. Nonogaki came to me and asked me to run away, as far as I could, from the plane. We were under the impression that there might be some ammunition inside the plane which might explode. I was told by Col. Nonogaki that he thought that

NCO. Lt. Aoyagi was still in the plane. Later I heard that somebody- perhaps from the airport staff, had pulled out Lt. Aoyagi from the plane. After that, four or five military vehicles came to the scene of the

accident. I remember there were some lorries and one propeller starting truck called "Shidosha" in Japanese. There were one or two cars also. I do not remember if there was any other injured person present with me in that lorry. All I remember is that some members of the aerodrome staff lifted me up bodily and put me in the "Shidosha" which took me to the hospital. While I was being carried in the lorry, I remember that the skin from my face had pulled off and I was finding it difficult to blow my nose. I reached the hospital after about 30 minutes. I did not see Mr. Bose after that. On reaching the hospital, I was laid on a bed. Mr. Bose was kept in a separate room. There were some other injured persons in the same room as myself. There were 4 or 5 other injured persons in the same room as myself but since all of them had their faces bandaged, I could not make out who they were.

From the lorry, I was helped by two men and walked to the ward. I had some difficulty in getting to the room as it seemed very distant. My injuries were attended to by a nurse whose name I do not remember. When I had rolled on the ground to extinguish the fire from my body at the aerodrome lot of sand and dust had got into my skin. The nurse first cleaned my

face and other parts that were injured, then put on some medicine and bandaged all my injuries. After being bandaged while I was lying on my bed, I started thinking about the other passengers wondering who were dead and who were alive. I thought to myself that Major Takizawa, Tominaga (Radio operator) and General Shidei must have died. I was not quite certain what would have happened of Lt. Aoyagi and the Engineer who were sitting just behind me. I heard that Mr. Bose was in the next room, though badly burnt yet alive. The nurse whose name I do not recollect, told me this. I wanted to meet Col. Nonogaki but he was not available. I rang up the Military Police headquarters but there was nobody on the phone. In the meantime, the whole of my face had swollen and my eyes were closed and I could not see anything. The same evening at about 8 P.M. I was taken to another hospital. Some other persons were also taken to the hospital but I do not know who they were. At that time I could neither walk nor see anything. I was taken in a hospital about 5 kilometers. I stayed in that hospital for about a month and a half. I heard in the hospital either on the first day or the second day of my reaching there that Mr. Bose had expired. I asked whether Mr. Bose had

NCO.

That time
Mr. Nonogaki went
to the Military Police
headquarters

in Pento

(or Mr. Nishi) said anything before his death. I asked this question from Major Kawano belonging to No. 8 Air Force Division. He told me that before his death, Mr. Bose did not make any complaint about his pain. He took everything very calmly. I think it was Major Kawano who told me that before his death, Mr. Bose expressed concern about his army in Singapore and other places. I am not sure whether it was Major Kawano or Major Nishi who told me these things. They were both staff officers of the 8th Army Air Force. Since my eyes were bandaged, I could not see them.

I had temperature for two weeks. During this time, I could not see anything. After two weeks, I could see a little. At that time, my hands as well as my face were bandaged. Later when I could see properly and walk about a little, I saw the undermentioned persons who were travelling by the same plane, in the hospital:-

1. Captain Arai.
2. Col. Rehman.

In the beginning, all three of us were kept in the same room. Later we were allotted separate rooms each. Later I also saw Col. Nonogaki, Col. Sakai and Lt. Aoyagi in the same

Nco.

hospital. About the middle of September, Col. Rehman, Col. Nonogaki, Capt. Arai and Col. Sakai were flown to Tokyo after they had recovered. I stayed in that hospital till November. During this time, Lt. Aoyagi passed away in the same hospital. In the beginning of November, I and one N.C.O. were flown together to Fukuoka. Up till that time, my face was still bandaged and my hands could not move. I was, therefore, admitted to the hospital at Fukuoka. I was removed from Paito hospital because the Chinese forces had occupied that hospital. I left Fukuoka hospital after three days. From the hospital, I went to my home in Kanazawa Shi in Ishikawa Pref. I remained under treatment for 1½ years. Since the Japanese army had surrendered, I could not go to the Military hospitals but continued my treatment under private arrangements.

N.C.O.

Paito

city

Since my arrival in Tokyo, I have never been interrogated either by the British, American or the Japanese authorities. Several newspaper reporters came to my house in 1947. In May 1950 I came to Tokyo and starting my business of printing.

Even after the protracted treatment I had, the skin of my face shows marks of burning although it was

otherwise normal. I lost all my teeth and am wearing false teeth. 4 of my fingers of the right hand, that is excepting the thumb, were damaged and mishapen and I cannot clench my right fist. The left hand was less injured; only the little finger were deformed. This hand also I am unable to clench my fist in full. The skin of both hands still bear marks of the serious burning. Burns of my feet have been wholly healed. The marks of injury were shown to the Committee, both my hands and face, and the photograph was taken of the damaged pair of hands.

Interpreted by Mr. Rehman.

Admitted correct.

Statement by *Katizawa*.

recorded on 2nd June 1956 at 10-30 A.M. at Tokyo.

During the last war, I was attached to the Japanese Embassy. I was Deputy of Mr. Ishi, who was the Ambassador. When the British forces began to advance, the Japanese forces started evacuating from Rangoon. On 23rd of April, ^{1945.} Netaji and his party also evacuated from Rangoon ~~at about the same time.~~ Netaji's party left one or two days later. It took us about a week to reach Moulmein from Rangoon.

Dr. Ba Maw, the Prime Minister with the following:-

1. Mr. U Nu,
2. Mr. Thakin Mia
3. Mr. U Tung Aung, the Minister of the Department of Co-operation between the Japanese Army and the Burmese Government.

4. Mr. U La Pe, wanted to be removed from Rangoon to a place of safety. Accordingly, the Japanese Govt. instructed me to help them in doing so.

Ambassador Ishi, myself and other officials of the Embassy accompanied the party of those six or seven Burmese Ministers, including their families. We left Rangoon on the 23rd of April 1945 and reached Moulmein on the 3rd of 4th of May 1945.

About a week before the surrender of Japan and before the Japanese Govt. accepted the

Potsdam terms, the Japanese Govt. had decided to give protection to the heads of all the States that had helped Japan in the prosecution of the war and that the Japanese Government would inform all of them whether they were agreeable to accept the terms of the Japanese Govt. and to take refuge in Japan. This order of the Govt. was communicated to the heads of all the States, namely, Burma, ^(Azad Hind), the Provisional Govt. of India, Philippines, China, Manchuko, Indonesia and Thailand. In accordance with the proposal of the Japanese Government, Dr. Laurel, the President of the Philippines along with 17 of his Ministers came to Japan and took refuge there. Mr. Chenkun Pao (the successor of Wan Ching Wei), head of the Chinese Govt. with 2 or 3 other people of his came to Japan for the purpose of taking refuge ^{there}. Dr. Seokarno of Indonesia could not come, as the Dutch Forces occupied Indonesia soon after the surrender and he was unable to come to Japan, and Dr. Seokarno negotiated with the Dutch for the independence of their country. The Prime Minister of Thailand and the successor ^{Pibul Songgram} to Mr. ^L did not want to leave the country for reasons best known to him. The Emperor of Manchuko wanted to come to Japan and he flew from his headquarters

Cheng Chung for Japan, but his plane was intercepted by Russian war planes and he was compelled to return to Cheng Chung.

Dr. Ba Maw and his party including his cabinet Ministers numbering 6 or 7 with their families left Rangoon on the 23rd of April 1945 accompanied by Ambassador ^{myself} Nishi and other Japanese members of ~~the~~ ^{our} Embassy. We arrived in Moulmein on the 3rd of May and ^{all of us} ~~they~~ stayed in Mudon, about one mile from Moulmein, in which there were many Chinese. Dr. Ba Maw moved the seat of his Government from Rangoon to Mudon and stayed there till the date of the surrender of Japan, namely on 15-8-1945. Dr. Ba Maw left Mudon and arrived in Saigon on 20th of August. ^{Burmese} Other Ministers, who remained in Saigon, gave themselves up to the British forces. Only Dr. Ba Maw wanted to come to Japan from Mudon and all the other Burmese Ministers decided to stay behind voluntarily. family

Soon after reaching Mudon, Dr. Ba Maw ^{family} along with Bandore U Sein, the Burmese Minister for Information and Propaganda, was removed for safety purposes to Kam Pon Chand near Panonpong, the capital of Cambodia. Ambassador Nishi remained with Dr. Ba Maw's party at Mudon till the time of the surrender of the Japanese.

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ On or about the 15th of May ¹⁹⁴⁵, I and six others left Mudon by

truck and through difficult jungle terrain, we reached Bangkok after a week. I got an order from the Japanese Govt. to come back to Tokyo. So I left Bangkok on the 5th of August and arrived at Saigon the same day. Dr. Ba Maw came to Saigon on the 20th of August and he told me that he wished to have asylum in Japan. I stayed in Saigon for about 20 days. I stayed at the official residence of the Japanese Ambassador in Saigon. I saw Dr. Ba Maw after his arrival ^{there}. I told the Japanese Military HQ in Saigon, i.e. F.M. Count Terauchi's HQ, who arranged one bomber plane. ~~and~~ Dr. Ba Maw, Lt. General Tanaka (Chief of the Staff of the Japanese Army in Burma) and Mr. Hayashi, the Supreme Adviser to the Japanese Forces in Indonesia) and I left Saigon on the 23rd of August and reached Taipeh (Formosa) on the same day and spent the night there, and arrived in Tokyo on the 24th August. When we arrived in Taipeh, we were told that Netaji's plane had crashed. On the 16th of 17th of August I went to the Saigon Aerodrome to see off Netaji from that airport.

With regard to the Provisional Government of India, Mr. Hachiya, the Japanese Minister to the Provisional Government informed Netaji that if Netaji

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wished to come to Japan, the Japanese Government would give protection to him, and I think Netaji decided to accept the proposal. Netaji and his party had left Rangoon on the 24th of April 1945. He came to Bangkok via Moulmein.

I was informed at Taipeh for the first time that Netaji's plane had crashed at Taipeh and I was asked by a member of the Japanese Army HQ in Formosa to take one box to the War Department at Tokyo. I was told that in that box, there were ashes of Lt. General Shidei, who accompanied Netaji. I took the box on board the plane and transmitted that box to the War Department at Tokyo after my arrival there. That Army officer told me that Netaji's plane had crashed and all members who were on board that plane had died. Later I was told that in that box the ashes of other people were included, but I am not quite sure whether this was so or not. I was told that Netaji had died but I was not asked to bring his ashes. I was not informed at Saigon about Netaji's plane crash or ^{about} his injuries or death. During my stay in Saigon, I was informed that Netaji wanted to go to ^{Soviet Russia via} Manchuko, but he was persuaded by the Japanese Govt. to go to Japan instead of to Manchukuo. I was told this by the Army Officer in Saigon.

(4/6)

Statement of Rev. Ota Hide Maru, Priest of
Hengashi Honganji temple, 1 Ichiken 3113 No. Shobata,
Sao Reecho Amagun, recorded on 31st May 1956 at Tokyo
at 5 P.M.

...

On 11th of July 1945 I went to Taiwan from Shanghai. I was attached as a priest to the Royal Navy and was working as a priest in Hengashi Honganji temple, Formosa but was living at Hokuto where my mother was residing. This temple is located in Taihoku city.

On the 22nd or the 23rd of August, the chief priest of the Honganji temple by the name of ^{late} Rev. Kasudi-Kakusi told me that on the 26th or 27th August they were going to hold a ceremony for a big personality from India. He did not tell me the name of the person in whose honour the ceremony was going to be held. We ^{held} ~~wanted to hold~~ a ^{solemnly} ~~very~~ big ceremony on 26th or 27th but ^{but} ~~as the American forces had landed at Formosa,~~ we could not hold as big a ceremony as we would have liked to hold, ^{due to the confusion prevailed immediately after the war} ~~due to the confusion prevailed immediately after the war~~.

There were two Buddhist temples both near the Nammon Military Hospital, 1, the Nishi Honganji temple and 2, the Hengashi Honganji temple. The distance between the two was about 600 meters. Nishi (west) Honganji temple was nearer the Nammon Military Hospital. The box was kept in the Nishi Honganji temple. Nishi Honganji temple was the biggest temple in Formosa. In the end of August 1945, a ceremony was held in the Nishi temple. I did not attend the ceremony as I belonged to the other temple. The Japanese army in Taiwan looked after the ashes carefully and then brought the ashes with them to Tokyo. I do not know what happened to Mr. Bose's ashes in Tokyo.

The white box kept in the Nishi temple contained the ashes of Mr. Bose. I learnt this from the persons who actually picked up the bones and ashes

of Mr. Bose from the crematorium that those ashes were Mr. Bose's ashes. I do not remember their names.

There were about 12 priests in the Nishi (West) Honganji temple, Taihoku, and about 8 priests in the Hengashi (East) Honganji temple, to which I was attached as a priest.

Interpreted by Mr. Rahman.

Admitted correct.

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Statement by Ex-General Haruki Isayama,
5624 Sajo Machi, Seta Gaya-Ku, Tokyo,
recorded on 31st May at 2-30 P.M. at Tokyo.

At about the time when the last war ended, I was Chief of the General Staff, Formosan Army. I know that soon after the end of the last war, there was a serious air accident in Taihoku. I know that in that plane crash, General Shidei and Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose were involved. I know General Shidei because he had been my class-mate. This accident took place either on the 18th or 19th of August 1945. I learnt about this accident when I went to my office the next morning from a Staff Officer who reported about this accident to me. I do not remember the name of the Staff Officer who gave me this report. From the report delivered to me, I learnt that General Shidei couldnot get out of the plane and that he was burnt to death inside the plane. About Mr. Bose, I learnt that he had been very badly burnt and admitted to the hospital and that he had expired in the hospital during the night. I also learnt from another report that General Shidei, on arrival at Taihoku, had made enquiries about me. He was told that I was at the time working as a Chief of the General Staff in Formosan Army Headquarters. The officer asked General Shidei if he should send for him but General Shidei told him that since he was in a hurry to leave, he need not do so. General Shidei sent his regards to me through that officer. I made out from the reports of staff officers submitted to me that the engine of the plane was worn out and that the plane must have taken off without adequate repairs being carried out to it. This was because they were in such a hurry to leave. And since the plane had been completely burnt out, we could not investigate into the condition of the engines. So far as

I could ascertain, the engine of the plane did not develop sufficient speed to enable the plane to acquire the necessary height at which it could take the turn. As a consequence, it crashed so soon after taking off. The causes of the accident, as far as I could determine, were:- *could be either any of the following*

1. Defect in the engine,
2. Defect in the body,
- or 3. Over-loading. As there was a shortage of planes at that time, it is likely that more load had been put in that was desirable.

More details of the accident could be available from Lt. Col. Shibuya, who was the Air Staff Officer.

As far as I know, no official enquiry to determine the causes of this accident was held till the time I left Formosa in April 1946 as otherwise, I, as the head of the Army, would have known about it. As the plane did not belong to the Taiwan Army, normally it was not our responsibility to hold any enquiry into the crash, but we would have held such an enquiry if ordered by the Imperial General HQ, Tokyo. So far as I know, no such order was received, but it is possible that such an order might have been received directly by Lt. Col. Shibuya (who was the Air Staff Officer) and he might have forwarded his report to the Imperial General HQ. I do not know anything about it.

Question by the Chairman. Since the plane did not belong to your Army and it was not your responsibility to carry out investigations into the causes of ^{the} accident, may I know whose duty it was to make investigations into this particular case?

Reply: As far as I am aware, no hard and fast rules exist

on the subject, but from the point of view of commonsense, it is obvious that the Commander within the area of whose jurisdiction, the accident takes place, is responsible for holding any enquiries and reporting the results thereof to the higher HQ. In this particular case, a report on this accident was sent to the Imperial General Headquarters, Tokyo and it would appear that they were satisfied with the report as also the causes of the accident as mentioned in that report; they did not follow^{up} the matter any further and considered the case closed. This report to the Imperial General HQ was sent through me because it is the normal practice that all correspondence from various Army HQ addressed to the Imperial General Headquarters, Tokyo, is sent ^{by the Chief of the General Staff} in the name of the Deputy Defence Minister and the Deputy Chief of the General Staff. I do not think that any enquiry was held by the Air Division into this plane crash. The report regarding this accident was submitted to me by Lt. Col. Shibuya. It is possible that the Air Division might have associated themselves ^{with} in the matter and one of their Staff Officers might have been present in any enquiry that might have been held, but I have no knowledge about it. Since this matter did not concern the Air Division, Taiwan, there is little possibility that they associated themselves in this enquiry. No official report regarding the cremation of the body of Mr. Bose was made to me, but I think Mr. Bose must have been cremated because he was involved in the same plane crash as General Shidei. I remember one week after the plane crash, Dr. Ba Maw, ex-Prime Minister of Burma and General Tanaka, the Chief of the General Staff of the Japanese Army in Burma, arrived at Taihoku on their way to Tokyo. I went and ~~met~~ met them at the aerodrome. I had known General Tanaka and Dr. Ba Maw previo

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previously when I had marched into Burma in January 1941 as the Chief of the General Staff of the invading Japanese Army from Thailand. I left Burma in December 1941. General Tanaka carried the ashes of General Shidei to Tokyo.

Since General Shidei was cremated, so must Mr. Bose, but I ^{had} have no official intimation. As Chief of the General Staff, it was my duty to report about this accident to the higher Headquarters and I think I did so. The only HQ to whom I referred this matter were the Imperial General HQ, Tokyo. I do not know whether they ever issued any instructions for holding any enquiry into this accident. The information regarding this accident was sent to the Imperial General Headquarters by wireless. In such cases, such messages are generally repeated for information to all concerned. In this particular case, I do not know whether it was repeated to any other Command or not.

I do not know whether any funeral ceremony was held in Taihoku for Netaji. I and the Army Commander did not take part in the funeral ceremony of Mr. Bose or go to pay our respects to the dead body in the hospital, because at that time Japan had been defeated and we did not want it to be made public that an important person like Mr. Bose, who had taken such a prominent part against the British for the liberation of India, was fleeing to Tokyo. The Army Commander shut himself up in his house from the day of the surrender of Japan and did not come out. This is the reason why we did not participate in Mr. Bose's funeral ceremony. Although I had known fully well about the greatness of Mr. Bose and both I and the Army Commander were shocked to hear about his death, we did not take any part in the public ceremonies to keep the matter a secret. Regarding the disposal of Mr. Bose's ashes

so far as I remember, one of my staff officers gave facilities for the disposal of Mr. Bose's ashes at the request of Col. Rehman, his Adjutant. I left the matter of disposal of Mr. Bose's ashes to my staff officers and since I did not receive any report from them, I presume that everything must have worked out smoothly.

After I left Formosa, I was kept in Sugama prison. Only last September I was released on parole. After the war, I was tried for the murder of American airmen and imprisoned for life. In 1953 my imprisonment was reduced to a term of 29 years. After serving for 9 years and 4 months, I was released on parole.

At present, I am employed in a small factory.

Interpreted by Mr. Rahman.

Admitted correct.

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Statement by Rev. Kyoei Mochizuki,
Head Priest of Renkoji Temple
(Netaji Shrine), 130. 2-chome Koenji,
Suginami-Ku, Tokyo, recorded on 30th
May 1956 at 3 P.M. at Tokyo.

I have been the priest of the
Renkoji temple for the last 33 years.

After the surrender of the
Japanese and the landing of the American
forces in Japan, the priests of other
temple in Tokyo were afraid of the
Americans and were somewhat reluctant
to keep the ashes of Netaji Subhas
Chandra Bose in their temples.

At about 8 A.M. on 15th of
September 1945, Mr. Murti came to my
temple and told me that Netaji's ashes
had arrived in Tokyo and that other
temples were refusing to accept those
ashes. He requested me to keep those
ashes in my temple. I agreed to do so.
Mr. Murti was accompanied by another
priest of another temple who had refused
to keep Netaji's ashes in his temple.
The name of that priest was Rev. Kaki Kawa
of My^{choji} temple. The priest also
requested me to agree to keep Netaji's
ashes in my temple. At 8 A.M. on 18th
of September 1945, Mr. Murti accompanied
by Mrs. Sahay, 30 or 32 Netaji's cadets
came to the temple. There was also
another Indian with Mr. Murti. I think
he was probably Mr. Ayer. ^{There} He was also
one Japanese Staff Officer in civilian
clothes. He had come in a military car

and his driver told me that he was a Staff Officer who had come from some Military HQ. Netaji's ashes were brought to the temple by a cadet who was sitting in a hand-pulled ricksaw. The cadet came in two trucks. I think Mr. Murti came by cycle; I am not quite sure. I do not know how Mrs. Sahay and the other person came as at that time I was inside the temple making arrangements for the ceremony. On that occasion some Japanese Military soldiers as well as some other Indians came to the temple. In all, I think there were about 100 persons inside the room where we held the ceremony.

The temple of which I am the priest is the Buddhist temple. When the ashes were brought we placed them on a wooden stand. The ashes were contained in a small wooden box about 8" cube. It was wrapped in a white cloth on which was written:-

"NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA-BOSE".

I can read printed English a little.

At the ceremony I called six other priests. I stood in the front. We burnt incense (agarbattis). Mr. Murti gave 30 Yens wrapped in a piece of paper. I distributed this sum amongst all the priests. On the completion of the ceremony, I was under the impression

that the ashes would be taken back as according to the custom in Japan, only the ashes of the people living in the vicinity of the temple or of the ashes of persons who are members of that temple, are kept in the temple. Since Mr. Bose did not fall within any of these categories, I was under the impression that they had brought the ashes to the temple only for performing the ceremony. But when the ceremony was over, Mr. Murti, Mrs. Sahay and the Japanese Staff Officer came and told me that those ashes were the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose who was a great man and that I should keep those ashes carefully and look after them in a befitting manner. When I heard this, I agreed to keep the ashes there with the conviction that some day I would be able to deliver them to the Indian nation when the same is demanded ^{from} of me. There were some Indians present at the ceremony who wanted to take away the ashes but I refused to give the ashes to them because I did not know what they would do with those ashes. The ceremony lasted for one hour, after which people went away and I stayed behind in the temple by the side of the ashes to make sure that no body came and took them away.

After Japan had secured its independence, Mr. Chettur, the Indian Ambassador, visited the temple on 21st of May 1950. He was accompanied by Mr. ^{Yukihisa} ~~Ukisa~~ Tamura of the Japanese Protocol Section. Mr. Chettur thanked me for having kept the

ashes in my temple and for having looked them after. He requested me to continue looking after them. On the 28th of June 1950, Mr. Trivedi, the first Secretary of the Indian Embassy, invited me to Lunch at his residence. Mr. Tamura was also present. I was very happy. After this, Mr. Chettur visited the temple twice again. In the beginning of June 1950, Mr. Ayer visited the temple and made enquiries about "etaji's ashes. After Mr. Chettur went away from Japan, his place was taken by Mr. Rauf. Mr. Rauf also visited the temple three times. He also thanked me and told me to look after the ashes carefully and not to give them to any body even if I were offered money for the same. On November, the 23rd, 1953 (copy attached) I wrote a letter to the Prime Minister of India. On 12th January 1954, a member of the Indian Embassy in Tokyo came to me with a letter which had been sent in reply to mine to him. The gentlemen who brought the letter, spread the letter in front of me and showed me that this letter was addressed to me. I read my name on it. He also told me that it was from Mr. Nehru. I saw Mr. Nehru's name also written on the letter. He explained to me that in the letter, the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Nehru, had thanked me very much for the safe custody of Netaji's ashes and that he had requested me to look after them very

carefully for some time. The person who had taken this letter to the temple, brought it back after showing it to me. Before he left the temple, I told him that a better receptacle should be provided for keeping the ashes as I was not in a position to provide one myself. He promised to convey this to the Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru. Since then I have not heard anything more.

On the 18th of August 1955, Mr. Dar of the Indian Embassy, came to the temple. He took a wreath which was placed in the temple on behalf of Mr. Sen. Mr. Dar was accompanied by 2 other Indians, whose names I do not know. On that occasion, we observed the death anniversary of Netaji. In fact on the 18th of August every year I have been praying and observing his death anniversary all by myself. Last year was the first occasion when other people took part. The same day at 3 P.M. the under-mentioned Japanese gentlemen also came to the temple:-

- General Nakamura,
- General Kawabe,
- Mrs. Tojo,
- General Mutaguchi,
- General Katakura,
- Col. Fujiwara.

Mr. Dar came 15 minutes after these gentlemen.

Before the death anniversary in 1955, no other ceremony was held

previously except what was done by myself.

People- both Japanese and Indian, come to the temple now and then. They usually light incense before the ashes. Their names are noted in my register.

Question: What happened between 1945 when the ashes were handed over and 1950 when Mr. Chettur visited the temple?

Reply: That was the occupation period and nobody came to the temple not even an Indian. I offered my prayers on the anniversary day.

Mr. Bose's question: Did Mr. Murti come to the temple?

Reply: He used to come to the temple on each death anniversary as long as he was here and before he left for India.

Interpreted by Mr. Rahman.
Admitted correct.

His Excellency,
Dr. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru,
The Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi, India.

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Kyoei Mochizuki,
130, 2-chome, Koenji,
Suginami-ku, Tokyo,
Japan.
November 23, 1953.

Dear Sir,

I am the priest of Renkoji, Buddhist temple in the suburbs of Tokyo City. I have the honour to send this letter to you, guided by the soul of the late Sath Chandra Bose ji. I have been keeping the ashes of Netaji safely, and praying for the repose of his soul since September 18 in 1945. Eight years have already passed since that time. Japan was under occupation eight years ago, during which Japanese were living their stormy life in social confusion. Therefore, apprehensive of consequences, none would accept Netaji's ashes to keep it safely.

I, a stranger to the late Netaji, was asked to keep the ashes by people who were strangers to me including Indians of whom I have never heard since that time. I thought anyone's soul should be warmly worshipped under whatever circumstances. According to such belief as a religionist who serves the spiritual world, I have secretly been guarding Netaji's ashes at the risk of my life. I have been so watchful that even small noises at midnight startle me.

In June 1951, Ex-Indian Ambassador to Japan, His Excellency, K.K. Chettur, invited me to his official residence. And I was officially asked to keep the ashes by him, as the representative of the Indian Government. The witness was Mr. Tamura, Chief of the Ceremony Section of the Foreign Office of Japan. So my responsibility and duties for keeping the ashes have become more important.

Frankly speaking, I must inform you that, in spite of many inconveniences and trouble I underwent in keeping the ashes, I have never received any help privately and officially. But I believe I can keep up Netaji's soul perfectly by recognizing the importance of duties assigned to me and with my strong belief as a religionist.

Now Japan is not under occupation. The peaceful relations between Japan and India have been reestablished. So, it is meaningless and pity for the late Netaji that his ashes should be kept in a temple of a foreign country, lonely and secretly, after all his vain efforts to bring about the independence of India and happiness of Asia. I think now is the time when such a significant plan as vivifies the historical achievements and sacred spirit of Netaji eternally for both Asia and mankind should be adopted.

During the latest equinox week, I dreamed a strange dream of Netaji two nights on end. The dream was enough to make me lose the peace of my mind as a religionist.

Such is the background of my taking the liberty of expressing my personal view in this letter, which I write as a religionist and a priest who is charged with such an important responsibility by the Indian Government.

I should be much obliged if you would kindly understand me, and send me, directly if possible, any suggestions you may have as to the disposal of the late Netaji's ashes.

Yours very truly,

Kyoei Mochizuki
Priest of Renkoji-temple.

given
F. off

Statement by Mr. Kazo Mitsuo, Fukuoka
Wakamatsu-shi, 15 Nishi Hata-machi, Japan,
recorded on 29th of May, at 11 A.M.

Before the war, I was employed in the Formosa Police Force. After the outbreak of the war, I joined Military service in 1944 and was posted as a medical orderly in the Taihoku Rikugun Buoyin Nanmon (Military) Hospital, Taihoku. On 18th August 1945, there was a serious air accident at Taihoku. I did not actually see the accident taking place myself because I was in the hospital. The injured persons were brought to the hospital. All the injured persons were brought to the hospital in a military truck and ⁱⁿ one car called "Joyosha" in Japanese. I do not remember the exact time but I think it was at about 2 P.M. that these vehicles arrived at the hospital carrying the injured persons. At that time, soldiers were required to take them off from the vehicles to carry them to the wards. I had to ring the alarm bell in order to collect the hospital staff for this purpose. All the hospital staff consisting of about 20 medical orderlies collected near the vehicles, and carried off all the injured persons on stretchers inside the hospital. In addition to the hospital staff, Dr. Yoshimi, and Dr. Tsuruta, who were medical officers in that hospital, were also present on the spot. Both the vehicles had arrived together at the hospital. The injured persons were carried to the ~~dressing room~~ in the ward. We had 4 or 5 stretchers and the injured persons were carried to the ward in turns as stretchers were available. The first person to be taken to the ward was Major Kono Taro, a Japanese officer, whom I carried on my back, because he was not

-2-

so seriously injured. I left Major Kono on the corridor of the hospital at his request and ran back to the vehicles to help the other injured persons. When I returned to the vehicles after leaving Major Kono, I saw that a great big man was lying on a stretcher near the vehicle. That man was wearing full uniform resembling that of an Air Force Officer. The colour of the uniform was light brown. From his uniform I could make out that he was not a Japanese officer. He had a big face but it was burnt. I do not remember whether he was wearing any glasses, ~~or not~~. He was clean shaven. The front portion of his chest and abdomen were also burnt. He had the uniform ^{on}, but the buttons of his tunic were open. The front portion of his thighs and ^{calfs} ~~cuffs~~ was burnt in various places. Since the trouser could not be taken off, the front of the trousers was cut as if with a scissor and the legs were exposed ^{from} ~~in~~ the front. Now I remember distinctly that his face was burnt. His legs were also burnt in places. I do not remember correctly about his chest and abdomen. From near the vehicle, he was carried on a stretcher by 4 men to the ^{ward} dressing room where he was placed on a bed. His clothes were taken off and he was dressed in hospital uniform. In the ^{ward} ~~dressing room~~, Capt. Yoshimi applied white ointment to his face and to various other places on the chest and legs where he was burnt. After putting on the

ointment, he bandaged the burns.
Dr. Yoshimi told all the medical orderlies present that the person whom he was treating was a very great man. I came to know from other nursing soldiers that the person whom we had carried in the hospital and about whom Dr. Yoshimi had spoken was Chandra Bose. As far as I remember six other injured persons including Mr. Chandra Bose, were brought to the same ^{ward} ~~dressing room~~. These persons were -

Note: For dressing room read "ward".

An Indian Col. Staff Officer,
Habibur Rehman,
Lt. Col. Sakai, a Japanese.
Major Kono Taro, a Japanese.
Sub-officer Aoyagi.
Sergeant Okita.

These were the only persons who were kept in the ward to which I was posted. I do not know if there were any other injured persons in other wards. All the six injured persons named above, were taken straight to their beds and treated there. I was posted for day and night duty over this ward, a sketch of which is ^{attached and} marked I. The other injured persons were groaning and shouting with pain. Mr. Bose was lying quiet. The back of left hand of Col. Rehman was burnt. There was an injury over his fore-head. The injury on Col. Rehman's forehead was in the centre of his fore-head.

His hand and forehead were bandaged.

His face was scorched and there were no blisters ^{on it.} He had no other injuries on his body. Mr. Bose had no injury except burns. After Mr. Bose's face and head were bandaged, the only portions that were visible, were the eyes and the mouth and ears. The front portion of his chest and abdomen were covered with ointment and a white thin cloth was put over him. His legs were bandaged properly. The actual dressing of Mr. Bose's body was done by the doctor. I only helped to bring medicines etc. Both his arms including his hands were fully bandaged. There were no hair on Mr. Bose's head and when we first brought him on the stretcher, I saw that the skin on his head was burnt. Major Kono had an injury in the middle of his head which was bleeding.

His face was burnt. About his other injuries I do not remember. There was no ^{other} ~~other~~ orderly or nurse besides ^{me} ~~him~~ in this room, after the injured persons had been bandaged by the doctor. An hour later an interpreter by the ^{Mr.} name of Hisaiti-Nakamura came to the ward.

(Asked as to how he remembered the name of Mr. Nakamura, the witness replied that he had received a letter from Mr. Nakamura on 23rd of April 1956 in reply to a letter which ~~he~~ ^{the witness} had written to him on 10th April 1956. He explained that a few days earlier, he saw a news item in Japanese in one of the local

papers that a commission was coming to Tokyo , to enquire into the alleged plane crash at Taihoku in which Mr. Bose was involved. On seeing this news item he wrote to Mr. Nakamura from whom he received the reply referred to above).

As soon as Mr. Nakamura arrived inside the ward, Dr. Yoshimi also came. I do not know from where Mr. Nakamura had come or what he was doing. Mr. Nakamura was called to the hospital to speak to Mr. Bose in English because Mr. Bose couldnot speak in Japanese. Mr. Nakamura talked to Mr. Bose. The first thing that Mr. Bose said was that his pillow was too low and he wanted a higher pillow. An additional pillow was placed under his head. After a short while, he asked for water and I gave him water by means of a bottle which was fitted with a glass and rubber tubes. The quantity of water supplied to him was very little. He said "thank you" after I had given water to him. While Mr. Nakamura was talking to Mr. Bose I was sitting by his side on a small chair. Mr. Rehman was lying on his bed, which was about two meters away. His bed was deliberately kept near Mr. Bose's bed so that he could speak to him from his bed, if necessary. Dr. Yoshimi used to pay frequent visits to the ward approximately every half hour. Dr. Tsuruta came to the ward with Dr. Yoshimi. I did not see him again. A Japanese nurse by the name of Otake who was from Okinawa used to visit the ward very frequently. I do not know her present address. Nurse Otake when not attending to the

patients in the ward used to rest in the office marked A on the sketch. When Mr. Bose was dressed in the first instance, there were 2 or 3 nurses present, one of them being from Taiwan. I do not remember her name. There was a Formosan nurse whom we had given a Japanese name of Yanagawa. I do not remember her Formosan name. I do not remember the name of any other nurse. After a short while, he asked for water again. This ^{happened} ~~was~~ three or four times and every time I gave him a little water. Dr. Yoshimi used to come and attend to him frequently. Mr. Bose did not speak very much. He used to speak to Col. Rehman occasionally. At about 4 P.M. Mr. Bose enquired from Mr. Nakamura as to what has happened to his valuables. Mr. Nakamura told me this in Japanese. He also told Tomaki Shibata that Netaji was enquiring about his valuables and that he was worried about them. Shibata was a N.C.O. in charge of medical orderlies in our Unit. Shibata told Mr. Nakamura that he would go and make enquiries from the aerodrome. He went and talked to the Military police N.C.O. who was sitting at the entrance of the ward. I do not know what happened about those valuables afterwards. I was only an orderly soldier. Since Mr. Bose's burns were of a very serious nature, the doctor was paying particular attention to him. He had given a number of injections and also felt his pulse a number of times. At about 9 P.M., the doctor noticed that

his pulse was becoming very weak. Mr. Bose expired at about 9-30 P.M. The following were present when Mr. Bose breathed his last:-

- 1. Dr. Yoshimi.
- 2. Nurse Otake.
- 3. Myself,
- 4. Mr. Nakamura.

Mr. Rehman was also by his bed side at that time.

Siddiqui
30.5.56.

S. Rahman
30.5.56

(437)

Committee would like to examine
this witness. Arrangements may
please be made to call him.

Date: (Blank) *Sachinawaz Khan*

To: Netaj Inquiry Committee,
The Embassy of India in Japan,
Tokyo.

As arrangements have been made to call him, he may come. 23.5.56.

From: Kazuo ~~Mitsui~~ Mitsui,
No.15, Nishihata-cho,
Wakamatsu City, Fukuoka-Ken.

S.C. An
23.5.56.

Dear Sir:

I am one of a very few soldiers who attended the deathbed of Mr. Subash Chandra Bose. I understand Mr. Bose's elder brother has come to Japan all the way from India to investigate the truth. I am afraid you are experiencing inconvenience in this foreign land where you are a strangers. I think the truth has been mistakenly told because there were very few persons who were at his deathbed and also because the Japanese military at that time had been adopting a strictly secret policy.

If I were living near your place, I would be very glad to come to meet you to explain in details about the condition at that time, but I regret that I cannot do so easily because I am a policeman in a local prefecture. The outline is, however, written in a weekly "Ohgon" published by the Nihon Shuho-Sha, who informed me that a copy of the weekly has been presented to you.

Furthermore, I shall be prepared to tell you the real situation in which I smoothed Mr. Bose's dying pillow, if and when I am wanted to report to you through proper authorities.

Apologizing you for taking the liberty of writing above,

(KAZUO MITSUO)

前文御見下さす。

私は、スバス・ヤシドラボース氏の臨終に立ち会った数少い当時の兵隊の一人であります。

その兵相調査のために、はるばる実見がまておられるとのことですが、事情の分らぬ異境にまうれて、いろいろと御不便なことに推察致します。

何しろ臨終に立ち会った者が僅かしかいないのと、当時の軍部が固い秘密主義を取っていたために、いろいろと誤り伝えられているのも無理からぬことかと存じます。

近くであれは^{直接}面接してくれしく當時のことをお話ししたいものですが、地方の小官吏(警察官)であるために、それも思うに任せませんが、大体のことは「日本週報社の黄金」という雑誌に書いて居り、雑誌社から進呈したとの便りを受け、芝居に思うと共に、出来得れば實見に直接面接して、もっとくわしくお話ししたい思いであります。

もしその筋を通じての呼出しがあれば是んで、ボース氏の最後の死水を取った実情を實見にお伝え出来る用意と覚悟は持つていることをお便りして置きます。

ぶしつけな便りをおわび致します。

福岡県若松市西郷町一五、

志井教雄。



東京都千代田区

丸の内エम्バラー・ハウス

インド大使官滞中。

福岡縣若松市警察署

福岡県若松市西畑町一五

光孝一教雄

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D.O.No. 49/PM/Ch. 6/90

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
संस्कृति विभाग
भारत सरकार
नई दिल्ली-११०००१

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI-110001

36



G. Venkataramani
Dy. Secretary (VA)
Ph. 381539

Dated: New Delhi, the 22/10/90.

Dear Ms. *Sharma*,

I forward herewith a copy of letter No. 580/31/C/24/90 E&S-II dated the 20th/24th Sept. 1990 from PMO alongwith enclosures regarding bringing of "So-called" ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Tokyo.

I shall be grateful if you could kindly take necessary action in the matter and the comments may be forwarded directly to Shri Ajoy Acharya, Director, PMO under intimation to us.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(G. Venkataramani)

Ms. P.R. Sharma,
Director, JKM'
Min. of External Affairs,
South Block New Delhi.

Enc: as above.

↓
25/10

Handwritten signature

Netaji ph...
Shri Yadav



AJOY ACHARYA
DIRECTOR



प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली 110 011
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
NEW DELHI 110 011

D.O. No. 580/31/C/24/90-EL S-II

20th September, 1990

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed copy of letter dated August 24, 1990 from Shri Chitta Basu, MP & General Secretary, All India Forward Bloc addressed to the Prime Minister. Shri Basu, MP has, with his letter, enclosed a resolution by the Central Committee of the All India Forward Bloc on the move to bring the "so-called" ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose from Tokyo.

2. The Prime Minister has asked for comments in the matter.

3. We shall be grateful for your comments on the issues which have been raised in the resolution. A very early reply is requested.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

[AJOY ACHARYA]

Shri Bhaskar Ghose
Secretary
Department of Culture
New Delhi.

32. Atm
19/10

5/10

CH-6

JS(A)

I believe same decision was taken. On file pd.
25/10/90
10-11/90
4/10

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3782260

ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC

28, GURUDWARA RAKABGANJ ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

REF. NO.....

DATE..... August 24, 19 90

Dear Prime Minister,

We enclose herewith a copy of the resolution adopted by the Central Committee of the All India Forward Bloc, in its meeting held on August 17-21, last on the motivated move to bring the so-called ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Tokyo.

We also enclose herewith a note on the discrepancies in the earlier reports on the alleged Air Crash at Taihoku.

We shall be glad if you please take necessary action to see that the motivated move does not fructify.

With best regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Chitta Basu)
General Secretary.

encl:as above

Shri V.P. Singh,
Prime Minister,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

RESOLUTION ON THE MOTIVATED MOVE TO BRING THE SO CALLED
ASHES OF NETAJI FROM THE RENKOJI TEMPLE OF TOKYO TO INDIA.

The Central Committee of the All India Forward Bloc expresses its strong concern that in spite of the strong feeling of the people of the country against the deliberate move to prove that the ashes kept in the Renkoji temple of Tokyo are the ashes of Netaji, a move has been taken from some interested quarters, with an ill motive to malign the image of Netaji, to bring these ashes from Tokyo to India. The Central Committee recalls in this connection that the people of the country have rejected totally the majority findings of the Netaji Enquiry Commission, set up under the Chairmanship of Shah Nawaz Khan by Jawaharlal Nehru in respect of the so-called air crash at Taihoku Airport, in which Netaji was alleged to have been killed. In the context of the strong feeling of the people in this regard, the Government of India had set up another Enquiry Committee to go through the question of Netaji's so-called death under the Chairmanship of Justice Khosla. The Khosla Committee, in its report, made the remark that there had been no conclusive evidence in the matter of so-called death of Netaji in Taihoku aircrash. The Government of India did not proceed in this matter any further. As such, the ashes kept in the Renkoji Temple cannot be the ashes of Netaji.

The Central Committee expresses its strong opinion once again that the ashes from the Renkoji Temple must not be brought to India, and if this is done this will be a great dishonour to Netaji, and therefore, the C.C. declares that if any attempt is made from any quarter to do it, this will be resisted by

all possible means.

The C.C. requests the Government of India to take note of the strong feeling of the people of the country in this regard and take appropriate steps to prevent the move of bringing the ashes from Tokyo to India.

The Central Committee calls upon the people of the country to be on their guard against this nefarious move to malign the greatest of our national heroes and throw their full weight to frustrate it.

The Central Committee decides that a small delegation on behalf of the All India Forward Bloc, under the leadership of the General Secretary should meet the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister immediately to apprise them of the seriousness of the situation in this regard.

.....

TAIHOKU PLANE CRASH IS A COMOUFLAGE :

Findings by Khosla Commission :

- i) Bose was informed on August 12, 1945, that the War was about to conclude and the Japanese had decided to surrender to the Allied Forces. He was at that time at Saramban. The Message was brought to him there by Negishi (Witness No. 50).
- ii) Bose at once left for Singapore where he discussed his future plans with his colleagues and the Ministers of his Cabinet, almost day and night. Final decision was taken on 14th when Sakai arrived and conferred with Bose. It was decided that Bose himself should leave Singapore and try to escape to Russia where he hoped to find asylum.
- iii) At about 8 a.m. on August 17, 1945, Bose and party left by two planes for Saigon. Bose's party included Col. Habibur Rahman, Deb Nath Das (Witness No. 3), Isoda (Witness No. 68), S.A. Iyer (Witness No. 29), Hachia (Witness No. 51), Gulzara Singh (Witness No. 153), Col. Pritam Singh (Witness No. 155), Abid Hussain (Witness No. 157) and others. The party arrived at Saigon at 11 a.m.

Sri Suresh Chandra Bose, a non-official member of the Netaji Inquiry Committee, observed :

"As early as 1944, Netaji foresaw that the Japanese nation would have to surrender and that it was only a question of time. As the main object of his life was to continue his struggle for the liberation of India and as he could not do the same in those countries in the East, as they would come under the occupation of the victorious British and American forces and as for the same purpose and for the same reason, he could not continue his work also in Japan, he considered Russia to be a convenient and suitable country for his next future activities. He accordingly, started making contacts with the Russian Ambassador in Japan".

The Shah Nawaz Committee observed :

"Netaji felt that for him it would be good policy to take shelter in Russia, from where he could come out in time to continue his war of liberation against the British. He asked Mr. Sahay to go to Tokyo and try to establish

contact with the Soviet Ambassador there, Mr. Jacob Malik An Official reference was made to the Government of Japan by Netaji to contact the Russian authorities on his behalf." Japanese Government's reply which was received sometime in June, 1945. After thanking Netaji for his continuing cooperation with Japan, it says, "Nippon Government deems it almost without hope of success to get directly in touch with the Soviet Government on behalf of Your Excellency, and it has no intention of doing so." Mr. Debnath Das has stated that about this time several alternative plans were considered. The first was to go to India and prepare for an armed revolution inside the country : Alternative, to go to Yenan (Communist China) : And thirdly, to try and contact the Russians through the Japanese. The third alternative seemed to have found favour with Netaji Manchuria, which was next door, and held by the Japanese forces, was increasingly considered as the best place to move to".

Statement of Japanese Witnesses (about the Plan of Netaji to go to Manchuria) before Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission :

Gen. Isoda (Chief of Hikari Kikan) said that it was Hikari Kikan's plan to allow Bose to escape and to publish a false story regarding his death. (Proceedings of Netaji Inquiry Commission - Page 3016) Mr. T. Hachiya, (the Japanese Minister to the Azad Hind Government), Mr. T. Negishi (Japanese interpreter attached to Netaji), corroborated that the plan of Netaji was to go to Russia via Manchuria.

General Isoda has stated that the plane arranged for Netaji was a brand new bomber and that its take-off from Saigon aerodrome was quite normal and which has also been confirmed by Messrs. T. Hachiya, T. Negishi, Shri S.A. Iyer and others who were present there.

Iyer wrote in his book UNTO HIM A WITNESS at Page-68. "General Isoda, Mr. Hachiya and a Senior Staff Officer of Field Marshal Terauchi stepped out of the car, walked briskly into the house where Netaji shook hands with them and immediately ushered them into one of the rooms. Habibur Rahman was also asked to join the fateful conference (17-8-1945). I do not know exactly what transpired at the conference, because I was not present".

At page-69, he further wrote, "But where was Netaji going ? We did not ask him and he did not tell us. But we knew and he knew that we knew. The plane was bound for Manchuria".

"Bose considered that the Russian attitude was always in favour of India and her independence, and that at any time she might interfere on behalf of P.G.I. (249/INA G.H.Q. case on Bose and Russia).

"S.C. Bose was preparing to leave for Moscow in Order to place all information about the Indian Freedom Movement before the leaders of the U.S.S.R. It was also said that Col. S.A. Malik would follow S.C. Bose to Moscow, B766 heard the news from Lt. Subrammanian (then Adjutant of the YE-U Rest Camp). In December, 1944, Lt. Sadhu Singh of H.Q. I Div. I.N.A. who was acting as Q.M. of the YE-U Rest Camp, informed B766 that S.C. Bose had left for Moscow and was soon expected back in TOKYO". (Secret File No. 24 9-INA-II (H) G.H. Q. case on Subhas Chandra Bose).

"..... There was no need for the Japanese to ask the Russians for Bose's entry because Bose wanted to go to Manchuria from where he thought he would be able to get in touch with the Russian Forces". (Head Quarter Main File - 273 I.N.A. - 10 Misc.)

"On 16th August S.C. Bose came to Bangkok by a plane specially made for him by the Japanese. It is also suspicious that Bose had to change plane at Saigon and go on in another plane with one of his staff Officers. It would appear more likely that a person of Bose's importance would still be allowed to travel in his own special aircraft". (H.Q. Main File 273 I.N.A. 10 Misc.).

"Bose had been trying to persuade the Japanese to allow him to go to Manchuria since October, 1944, when they told him that they had no chance of invading India through Burma and that therefore, he was prepared to try another road to Delhi via Moscow. Reference should be made to HIKARI'S telegram at the time Bose arrived in Saigon. Isoda was also there and this fact may be significant that there was a plan on the part of HIKARI KIKAN to allow Bose to escape and to publish a false story regarding his death. This would have been the ideal place for ISODA (Chief of Hikari Kikan) to put into operation any such plan these are part of a colossal and well executed deception manoeuvre. This file of Telegrams along

with numerous other documents must have been purposely left for the British to find them. Although at this stage one cannot rule out the possibility of Bose being still alive, this file of telegrams contains four and most important one, which gives an idea of the plan to allow Bose to escape and to publish a false story regarding his death". (H.Q. Main File 10 MISC INA 273 subjects Subhas Chandra Bose, Page-10).

Copy of the four telegrams are annexed and marked with the letter "A".

Col. Tada, one of the Staff Officers of the F.M. Terauchi, (Supreme Commander, Japanese South East Asia Command) told, "after the end of the war when Japan surrendered, Terauchi took all responsibilities to help Netaji and asked him to go to Kaka Bose (His Excellency Bose) and tell him to reach Russian territory - all help will be given to him. It was arranged that Chandra Bose will fly in the plane in which Shidei was going, General Shidei will look after Chandra Bose upto Dairen, and thereafter, he could fall back on his own resources to contact Russians. Japanese would announce to the world that Bose had disappeared from Dairen. That would absolve them of all responsibilities in the eyes of the Allies". (Proceedings of Netaji Inquiry Commission 1970).

"It was noteworthy that No. 1 message was sent by Lt. Gen. ISODA himself who was in Saigon at the time. The message was not sent until 18 August..... in view of the fact that the Signal was given an 'URGENT' priority, it seems obvious that in actual fact the Signal Originated on 18 August, 1945" [Secret No. 63/2/10 G.S.I. (b) HQ. SACSEA COMMISSION No. 1, Saigon, 18th October, 1945]

"..... Possible that ISODA had come here (Saigon) to workout and co-ordinate his 'deception plan' with Lt. Gen. NIMATA and he stayed on until this plan had been executed under his personal supervision". [Secret No. 63/2/10 G.S(b) H.Q. SACSEA COMMISSION, 18th October, 1945] Lt. Gen. ISODA (Chief of Hikari Kikan). "The purpose of his (Netaji's) flight was to go to Soviet Union. He was going to Russia via Saigon". [Proceedings of Netaji Inquiry Commission 1970].

In brief, logical argument on evidence, would be :

- A. This extraordinary man (Netaji) "vanished" many times before 18th August, 1945 and if he did not chose to reveal his whereabouts

even his closest relations and associates would not and could not know where he was.

- i) In 1941, during the height of 2nd World War, while being in house internment, his extra-ordinary feat of escape from Elgin Road, Calcutta to Kabul, Russia and Germany, without **anyone being taken into confidence** about the **total** plan and without having the assistance of an organised group of people like the I.N.A.
- ii) In 1943, the historical 90 days' submarine voyage from Kiel to Singapore, with a change of Sub-Marine at Madagascar in the turbulent seas without the Allies knowing any thing about it. Further, not a single member of the German crew of the submarine knew who he was, though he used to give discourse on Gita to them everyday, during this long voyage.
- iii) His arrival at Singapore was kept such a close secret that before his presence was announced in the public meeting at the Parade ground, Singapore very few people knew that there would be Supreme Commander was already there.

- B. Netaji foresaw much before August, 1945 that Axis powers were going to be defeated in the 2nd World War.

As early as 1942 Netaji knew that Allies would be winning. In the last autumn of 1942 he told German Admiral Canaris, "You know as well as I do that Germany cannot win this war. But this time victorious Britain will loose India". Such was his assessment of the situation at home and abroad, and how correct.

Sri Shah Nawaj Khan, in his evidence, confided that as early as 1944 Netaji clearly visualised that Axis powers were losing the war. He said on oath that Netaji said in October - November, 1944 in a Cabinet meeting "Axis powers would lose and the Anglo-Americans would win".

Realising as early as 1942 or as late as 1944 what would be the outcome of war, what this 'PAST MASTER' of planning would do ?

C. The answer is simple. He would plan to shift his area of operation and there is massive evidence to show that he did plan to shift his area of operation to Soviet Russia, Indo China or China. Though none seemed to know the inner core of the plan many knew barely that there were plans for shifting the area of liberation movement. While Sri Shah Nawaj Khan said that even as early as 1944, Netaji was trying to contact Russians and Ho Chi Minh so that war of liberation continued from there, Sri S.A. Ayer, Minister of Publicity and Propaganda, Azad Hind Govt. and Sri E. Bhaskaran, Netaji's confidential secretary, deposed that "it was decided that base for liberation struggle should be shifted to Russia". Sri Deb Nath Das, Syed Samsul Zaman, General Secretary .I.L. Northern Shan State, Sri V.C. Sharma, Sri S.C. Sen Gupta, Sri M.S. Doshi, Col. Thakur Singh, Mr. Tara Kono, Lt. Gen. Isoda, head of the Hikari Kikon, Lt. Col. Taka Kura, Maj. Gen. S.C. Allagappan, Dr. S. Vasava Menon, Dr. B. Rama Chandra Rao, Sri S.S. Virik, Asstt. Manager of Air-India, Sri Gandhi Nathan, Sri S. Ishwar Singh, Col. Pritam Singh, Dr. R.N. Kasliwal, Sri A.M. Sahay and many others deposed that there were plans to shift the area of operation to Russia, China, Indo-China and even to India. According to Sri A.M. Sahay, near the end of 1944, he left Rangoon for Shanghai and set up a Territorial Committee with headquarters at Shanghai and branches in Canton, Tintoi and other towns in Manchuria. The witness established an office at Hanoi with a view to contacting the Chinese and Russian Communists and met Ho Chi Minh in this connection.

From the above, it is clear that long before the war ended, realising the ultimate defeat of the Axis powers, this master planner planned to shift his area of operation and it was not a last minute haphazard plan as Justice Khosla wants us to believe. Further than that, it has come on evidence that the 'plane crash story was a part of a strategy' so that victorious Anglo-Americans could not be on his heels. Sri U.C. Sharma, Sri S.C. Sen Gupta of secret service, Dr. B. Rama Chandra Rao and Sri Deb Nath Das deposed that plane crash story was only "a cover". Even Sri Amiya Nath Bose, during his visit to Japan and discussions with Japanese officials, learnt that there was a plan of landing Netaji at Port Dairen and announcing to the world that Netaji died in a plane crash. Sri E. Bhaskaran, confidential secretary to

Netaji, deposed that Netaji dictated a long letter to John Thivy, on 17th August, 1945, early morning in the following terms "I am writing all this to you as I am on the eve of taking a long journey by Air and who knows an **accident may not overtake me**".

Does it not prove abundantly that not only that there was a plan to shift the area of operation, but that the plane crash story was an integral part of such strategy ?

Justice Khosla said on one occasion : "If there was a plan like this, it is a very strong argument against the findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan committee". He further said "If the existence of such a plan is established it will go a long way to prove that **Netaji did not die in a crash**".

- D. Our next line of argument is, that there was plethora of evidence from high and low, pointing to a very peculiar trait of Netaji's character, that is, he was of very secretive nature and therefore the execution part of the plan of escape was known to very few. Amongst the Indians none except perhaps Col. Habibur Rehaman was taken into confidence.

Let us start with Shah Nawaz Khan's evidence. His evidence is : "It was entirely for Netaji to discuss what he wanted". Sri S.A. Ayer, Propaganda and Publicity Minister of the Azad Hind Government does not hesitate to confide that he did not know the members of the secret service of I.N.A. He further said : "Netaji was very reticent about the discussion of things that did not concern the particular person and did not take me into confidence as to what he discussed with the Japanese Government". He further says : **"Inner plan was not known to most of the Cabinet Ministers"**. Sri S.T. Mehtani's evidence is very revealing. He says : "Netaji was a very secretive person and he never discussed his plans **even with his Cabinet colleagues**. All the time he was under mystery. Even till the last moment, nobody would know where he was going". This has been the evidence of Sri S.C. Sen Gupta, Mr. Negishi, a Japanese businessman, Col. Gulzara Singh, Sri Deb Nath Das, and many others. Sardar Niranjana Singh Talib, M.P., a close associate of Netaji and ex. President of Punjab

Pradesh Congress Committee said unhesitatingly that Netaji was determined not to disclose his top secrets even to his Colleagues. Lt. Col. Taka Kura who was Staff Officer at the Imperial Gen. H.Q., Tokyo, is forced to admit that "Perhaps nobody knew by what plane he was coming".

E. But why was all this secrecy ? Answer is not far to seek.

1. Netaji was by nature a secretive person and never divulged more than necessary minimum information to even a confidant.
2. He became more secretive because Axis powers were losing and he had to shift his liberation movement to some other soil without Allies getting any wind of it. There was another reason.

F. The secrecy was all the more necessary when it was on record that information about every moment of I.N.A., at this crucial stage, was passed on to the Allies by some very high I.N.A. personnel.

Col. Thakur Singh and Sri A.M. Sahay admit that there were few cases of defection. Sri S.C. Sengupta, the intelligence officer, who was very close to Netaji, said on oath that it was within Netaji's knowledge that some traitors were dropped in the war front to liquidate Netaji and Netaji told him : "one of the high ranking officers had deserted us".

Is it now difficult to understand why Netaji, secretive by nature, was more secretive at this stage ? This secrecy was necessary as an abundant caution.

This is why none, except, perhaps, with the honourable exception of Col. Habibur Rahaman amongst the Indians, was taken into confidence about the ultimate plan of Netaji. Why Habibur Rahaman ? Was it an accidental choice ? No.

After interrogation of Col. Habibur Rahman, the Intelligence Bureau, New Delhi, on May 19, 1946 (No. C-5 Page - 5), recorded, "Habibur Rahman's report is unsatisfactory. The multitude of discrepancies in accounts of actual air crash as given first to CIC in Tokyo and later to CSDIC, is being taken up.....".

- G. Sri S.C. Sen Gupta of secret service of I.N.A. confides that in that fateful secret meeting of 17th August, 1945 (even today none, except the participants, knows what transpired in that meeting) only Habibur Rahaman amongst the Indians and some top Japanese Officers conferred with Netaji. Can any one now fail to realise why Col. Habibur Rahaman was the lone Indian companion of Netaji "in his journey to the unknown".
- H. Our next line of argument is that the plane crash story was a put up story and did not stand scrutiny. To make our submission good massive evidence was analysed to bring home the truth that from this evidence no sensible person far less a judicial person could come to the conclusion that there was a plane crash or that Netaji died in such a plane crash ?

If there was a plane crash how could there be six different versions of the same plane crash ? The alleged occupants of the plane gave contradictory versions about the seating arrangements. Why ? It is admitted fact that neither there was any seat nor seatbelt. If on the top of that, plane actually crashed the way it is said to have nose dived then all the passengers falling in a heap with luggage falling over them and fire breaking out, there could not be a single survivor in such a plane crash. But miracle of miracles ! 7 or 8 persons survived with very minor injuries so that they could give evidence in details about the plane crash and Netaji's alleged death before the Inquiry Committee and the Commission.

None of these so-called surviving co-passengers saw Netaji actually dying and none of them knew Netaji before 17th August, 1945. About the air-crash and its impact their depositions are at such variance from one another that their evidentiary value is non est. Is it conceivable that in his journey from Taihoku the head of the Azad Hind Government will not be accompanied by a single Japanese officer, known to him who would be able, at least, to identify him ? Did not the protocol demand that the head of a State, while travelling, is accompanied. It is on record that even on 17th August, 1945 Netaji was closeted with Lt. Gen. Isoda, the head of the Hikari Kikon, Col. Tada a Staff Officer attached to Field Marshal Count Terauchi's Headquarters and Mr. Hachia, the Japanese Government representative to Netaji's Azad Hind Government ?

Apart from the evidence of Dr. Yoshimi and Dr. Tsuruta (of which the less said the better) all evidence given on Netaji's alleged death was hearsay evidence and non acceptable in a Court of Law. Lt. Gen. Fujiwara, Mr. Tadashi Ando, Lt. Col. Tadao Sakai, Mr. Negishi, Mr. Hachia, Lt. Col. Takamiya, Col. Nanogaki, Mr. Watanabe, Maj. Takahashi, Lt. Gen. Isoda, Lt. Col. Shibuya - all said without exception that they had no personal knowledge about the alleged death of Netaji.

Sri S.A. Ayer, the publicity and propaganda Minister of Azad Hind Government, was told by the Japanese on the 20/21 August, (i.e. after three days of alleged crash) that he would be taken to the place of plane crash and shown Netaji's body. But in spite of his repeated requests and repeated assurances by the Japanese he was never taken there. What does it prove ? It is simple to prove that as there was no plane crash, the Japanese naturally were unable to take him to the site of the non existant plane crash. Curiously enough, the same Ayer without further verifications, drafted the news of plane crash and Netaji's death which was published by the Domei News Agency and on that news item mainly, which was hearsay on hearsay, we are satisfied about the plane crash and Netaji's death, though not a single piece of documentary evidence i.e. the passenger list, flight Chart, whether report etc. has been produced to prove that even a single plane flew in the skies of Taihoku (Formosa) on the 18th of August, 1945. As even the plane flight has not been proved, it logically follows that the so called plane crash and Netaji's death have not also been proved. Another extraordinary feature of the evidence is that the identity of the so called co-passengers and the so called doctors was not checked, following the ordinary legal procedures. Therefore, if the oral evidence is non est and documentary evidence is scarce, what remains of the evidence of plane crash and death ? Nothing excepting Ayer's drafting the news which was hearsay on hearsay and which was published by Domei news agency as being authentic.

It will be interesting to read about Wavell's reaction on reading the news. In "Wavell the Viceroy's Journal" edited by PENDEREL MOON at page 164 Wavell's entry of August 24, 1945, shows the following : "I wonder if the Japanese announcement of Subhash Chandra Bose's death in an Air-crash is true, I suspect it very much, it is just what would be given out if he meant to go underground". On the above point we further made the following submission :

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- i) The Japanese were and are very photo minded. It is in evidence that Netaji could not escape the onslaught of a Camera even while going in or coming out of the bath room. But there is not a single photo produced of dead Netaji. If Netaji actually died then there was every reason for the Japanese to take innumerable photos of the dead body and show these to the world, as a convincing piece of evidence of his death.
 - ii) As no harm could have been done to a dead body, the Japanese in the event of his death on 18th August, 1945 i.e. 3 days after the Japanese surrender, would have kept his body and shown the same to the Allies, which might give an opportunity to the vanquished Japanese to negotiate for better terms with the victorious Allies.
 - iii) If Netaji actually died why should they i.e. the Japanese keep this in such mystery - when this mystery neither served their cause nor did it serve Netaji's cause (if he was dead) ?
 - iv) Though the so-called co-passengers admittedly never knew Netaji before the date of the so called plane journey, it is interesting that none of the confidants of the crucial closed door 17th August meeting was an eye witness to the alleged plane crash.
 - v) As it was already urged that Netaji was shifting his area of operation according to his plan, it was pointed out that pilot, co-pilot, engineer, navigator and Gen. Shidei, who were shown to be dead alongwith Netaji in the alleged plane crash, were, and not the alleged survivors, the only passenger who could help Netaji to fly away to his destination and that is why they were shown to be dead, so that the pursuing allies could be sent on a wrong trail.
- I. Our next argument is, the so called Doctors' evidence was at such variance from one another and also from their own statement given before Anglo-American intelligence, Shah Nawaj Khan Committee and Khosla Commission that none, in his senses, could believe their testimony.

A CHART of comparative statements of Dr. T. Yoshimi before different agencies, is annexed hereto and marked with the letter "B".

Dr. Tsuruta, another Doctor who was alleged to be present on that day claimed that he was present from the time Netaji was brought in till the time he died (?) and that no blood transfusion was given to Netaji.

There were innumerable such discrepancies and contradiction and because of these irreconcilable discrepancies the so-called doctors' evidence could not be believed. Therefore nothing remained on which a finding could be given that there was a plane crash. Therefore the alleged plane crash is nothing but a camouflage for sending Netaji safely to Manchuria.

In summing up it is submitted :

- a) No document has been produced either before the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee or the Khosla Commission to show that at least one plane flew in the skies of Taihoku on 18th August, 1945.
- b) All the Japanese evidence including the alleged co-passengers and Military Personnels' evidence is heresay evidence on the alleged death.
- c) No documentary evidence has been produced to show that the so-called passengers actually boarded the alleged ill-fated plane.
- d) None of them knew Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from before.
- e) Therefore, nothing remains to come to a finding that there was a plane crash.

Against the above, there are the following facts :

- i) Fake plane crash was planned according to the evidence of Sri U.C. Sharma, S.C. Sen Gupta, the Intelligence Officer of I.N.A., Dr. B. Ramachandra Rao, Shri E. Bhaskaran and Shri Debnath Das. Mr. Kishi's written statement before Shah Nawaz Committee also proved that a fake plane crash was planned. Iyer's hand written note submitted to Nehru in 1951 mentioned his meeting with Col. TADA informed him that there was such a plan. Col. TADA was a staff Officer to F.M. Terauchi.

- ii) Shri Biren Chakravarty's (ex. Captain of the CSDIC) report and evidence showing that there was no plane crash. He should know as his global Intelligence Organization was trying to find out the veracity of the plane crash story.
- iii) Shri Mulkha Gobinda Reddy, Ex. M.P., Shri H.V. Kamath, ex M.P., Shri Prakash Vir Shastri, ex M.P. and others claim that the official report prepared by the Formosan Government definitely leads to the conclusion that there was no plane crash.
- iv) Shri Pritam Singh's (of Taiwan) evidence of Mayor's (of Taipei) report where it says conclusively that on that day or a day before or after that day, there was no plane crash at Taihoku.
- v) Shri Alfred Wagg, the Political correspondent of Chicago Tribune, meeting Netaji and taking his photographs in Indo-China. This piece of evidence has come through the evidence of Sardar Niranjana Singh Talib, Shri Amiya Nath Bose, Shri Dwijen Bose and others and also from the newspaper report of the relevant period.

Japanese surrendered on the 15th. As Netaji did not accept the offer of asylum by the Japanese Government, they had to hand him over to the victorious Allies. But the fact is that they did not. And the fact is that the Head of the Hikari Kikan was closetted with him on the 17th of August morning (he admitted that in his evidence), which he obviously, under the terms of surrender could not do officially. Was not this close door conference in direct violation of the terms of surrender to be strictly followed by the vanquished ? It was. But the fact is that the Japanese risked this close door conference and the fact also is that they had tremendous respect for Netaji.

(Remember in this connection Tojo's bowing whenever Netaji's name is mentioned in the Tokyo Trial and Count Terauchi's instructions to Tada that even against the orders of the Imperial Japanese Headquarters, he was prepared to help Netaji to escape). Had they had, under the circumstances, any other alternative but to give out this story of plane crash ? They had none. The vanquished Japanese could not help Netaji, the greatest foe of the British, openly, but they were going to help him without arousing suspicion. They had no other alter-

native but to give out the crash story. This is the reason and that is why the details about crash story and the alleged death are so scrappy and at variance.

Sri S.A. Iyer had used the word "disappeared" with reference to Netaji's departure in the plan agreed upon both by the Japanese as well as by Netaji. It is to be considered what this word "disappeared" could actually signify and what the correct word in this connection should be. The plan was that the Japanese would remove Netaji to a safe zone, so as to prevent his arrest by the Anglo-Americans, after he was safe in Russian territory and out of their clutches, the Japanese would make the announcement regarding Netaji.

As the Japanese were also surrendering to the same Anglo-Americans, they could, under no circumstances make an announcement that they had removed alive or had otherwise helped the disappearance of their erstwhile ally, Netaji, and who was an arch enemy of the Anglo-Americans and who were naturally very keen on arresting him. So, after having removed Netaji in a plane from his theatre of activities and away from his country men and beyond the control of the Anglo-Americans, the Japanese duly announced that Netaji had died, as a result of a plane crash. So, under such circumstances, the Japanese had no other alternative but to declare that Netaji had died and thereafter, the word "disappeared" used by Sri Iyer could only mean "died" and nothing else.

As Netaji was travelling in a plane, it was the easiest thing for them to announce that Netaji's death was caused by a plane crash accident and which is obviously a readily believable story and which was actually what they had announced.

A copy of alleged cremation certificate, said to be of Netaji, (officially supplied by the Japanese Government) is annexed herewith and marked with the letter "C").

The facts and circumstances narrated above, give a very clear, convincing and readily-believable story that, in accordance with Netaji's

final request to be taken to Manchuria, with the ultimate object of going to Russia, the Japanese Government flew him in a brand new bomber plane from Bangkok to Saigon and then onward to Dairen in Manchuria, Netaji's final destination under the auspices of the Japanese.

AND AS SUCH, TAIHOKU PLANE CRASH IS NOTHING BUT A COMOU-
FLAGE.

MOTIVATION OF NETAJI TO REACH MANCHURIA :

"..... Bose wanted to go to Manchuria from where he thought he would be able to get in touch with the Russian Forces". (Head Quarter Main File - 273 I.N.A. - 10 Misc.)

It has been proved without a shadow of doubt that as early as 1944, Netaji foresaw that the Japanese nation would have to surrender and that it was only a question of time. As the main object of his life was to continue his struggle for the liberation of India and as he could not do the same in those countries in the East, he considered Russia to be convenient and suitable country for his next future activities.

When the time came for the Japanese to surrender, their Government expressed great sorrow at the failure of Netaji's mission and they then decided to "respect his last wishes", in whatever manner it was possible for them to do under such changed circumstances. Netaji, accordingly, requested them to take him to Russian territory. This request they could not comply with. By that time Russia declared war against Japan (it was on or about 10th August, 1945). The Japanese Government said, it would embarrass both the Russians as well as themselves, as they were negotiating for surrender and treaty terms with the Anglo-Americans through the Russians. As a next alternative, Netaji requested them to take him to Manchuria, which was still under Japanese occupation and he told them that he would make his own arrangements for entering into the adjoining Russian territory. This plan was agreed upon, and, in pursuance of the same, Field Marshal Terauchi, the Supreme Commander of the Japanese Southern Command, who had his headquarters at Dalat, near Saigon arranged a plane for Netaji and allowed Lt. General Shidei, the Chief of Staff of the Burma Army,

who had seen service in Manchuria and was a renowned General in the Kwantung army and, who knew that territory and Russian affairs well, to accompany Netaji in the same plane, with directions to drop both of them at Dairen in Manchuria and that General Shidei would look after Netaji, as long as he would be there and to help him in entering Russian territory and after which, the Japanese would announce to the world that Netaji had "disappeared".

"Bose had been trying to persuade the Japanese to allow him to go to Manchuria since October, 1944, when they told him that they had no chance of invading India through Burma and that therefore, he was prepared to try another Road to Delhi via Moscow". [Head Quarter Main File 10 Misc. I.N.A. 273 : Subject : Subhas Chandra Bose Page - 10].

"It was arranged that Chandra Bose will fly in the plane in which Shidei was going. General Shidei will look after Chandra Bose upto Dairen (Manchuria), and thereafter he could fall back on his own resources to contact the Russians. [Statement of Col. Tada, Staff Officer, F.M. Terauchi's Head Quarter. Proceedings of Netaji Inquiry Commission, 1970].

There was a very strong Japanese Intelligence formation at Harbin, Tiensin, Dairen in Manchuria. They are covering the Soviet Borders, opposite Korea... "The Japanese Intelligence formation was actually working there (at Harbin, Tiensin and Dairen) and an Indian named body was assisting the Japanese Intelligence in that area. Body had assistants but their name were not found on record. [Evidence of Capt. Biren Chakraborty of CSDIC before Khosla Commission].

It was presumed that the Intelligence Organisation was set up with the Indians with that end in view to help Netaji to escape to Russia from Manchuria. That apart, it would also be possible for Netaji to continue political activities on behalf of P.G.I. from Manchuria. Netaji's intention was to reach Soviet Union as early as possible. So, Manchuria would be the ideal place for him to establish contact easily with the Russian leaders and for this, he requested the Japanese Government to make arrangements for his escape to Manchuria and thus, he would be able to enter Russian Border with his own resources which was already there. At the relevant time Manchuria was under Japanese occupation. There was no safe route for Russia other than via Manchuria.

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ARRIVAL AND ACTIVITIES OF NETAJI IN MANCHURIA :

"on the 18th (August) morning a message was received in the Red Fort relayed from Trincomali from the American Naval Intelligence, stating that a twinengine bomber had been sighted and mentioning also the direction, altitude and speed of the aircraft. The Military Intelligence hurriedly looked into their records, held a Court Martial and quickly decided that this was probably an air craft maintaining the line of communication and it should be allowed to pass but it should be kept under observation from a certain distance - reasonable distance. No importance was given to information at that time. [Proceedings of Netaji Inquiry Commission 1970, Page-3712]

"On the 20th night a message was received from Macao about Parachute landing of three persons in the area between Harbin and Tiensin..... Later on I heard from my colleagues in the CSDIC that this area where three persons were parachuted down was covered by the Japanese Intelligence Organisation under two Officers, namely, Itto and Indo - one was a captain and the other was a Lt. Colonel". [Proceedings of Netaji Inquiry Commission 1970, evidence of Capt.. Biren Chakraborty, Page-3687].

"Later on when other pieces of information were pouring in, particularly when the statements of responsible INA Officers were being recorded, it was quickly ascertained that this particular message had a singular importance because this was the plane which took off with Gen. Shidei at 10-30 and which tallied with all information on record regarding the visit of Netaji and his party to the headquarters of Field Marshal Terauchi". [Proceedings of Netaji Inquiry Commission, 1970, Page-3713].

"Later on it was detected..... the plane was sighted in the air any time between 10 and 10-30. On that particular date it was not so important. It was taken as a message. Later on terrific weight was thrown on this. "[Proceedings of Netaji Inquiry Commission, 1970, Pages - 3723-3724].

Presumably, the Anglo-American Intelligence came to know that Netaji escaped to Manchuria. Knowing that, Wavell Government faced a serious dilemma regarding the course of their "treatment of Bose". Probably the "Top Secret Note" of Sir F.M. Mudie, Home Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, was the startling revelation of the information of Netaji's

'escape' to Manchuria. They were very much afraid of Netaji's influence over the I.N.A. and entire people of South East Asia. So, they thought, "that in certain circumstances his presence in Russia would be so dangerous as to rule it out altogether".

As regards the treatment of Bose, six possibilities were suggested by Sir F.M. Mudie. One of those possibilities was "Leave him where he is and don't ask for his surrender.... In many ways the easiest course would be to leave him where he is and not ask for his release. He might, of course, in certain circumstances be welcomed by the Russians. This course would raise fewest immediate political difficulties but the security authorities consider that in certain circumstances his presence in Russia would be so dangerous as to rule it out altogether". So, it can be said that 23-8-45 the Anglo-Americans knew that Netaji was in Manchuria at the relevant time.

From the available documents, informations and circumstantial evidence one might come to the conclusion that as early as 1944, Netaji had set up Intelligence Organisation at Harbin, Tiensin and Dairen in Manchuria to arrange for his escape to Russia.

An A.P.I. message issued from Madras on April 4 (1946) which says : "Subhas Chandra Bose is in Manchuria and doing well Sevika, a vernacular paper of Malaya, recently carried a news item from London dated March 27, 1946 which stated that Bose was heard over the radio from Manchuria".

CLUES TO TRUTH :

- a) War records of the U.K. Government Relating to Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A. including ;
 - i) Report of C.S.D.I.C. signed by Capt. Biren Chakraborty on or 30/31st December, 1945 and counter signed by Col. Stevenson ;
 - ii) Report of Figges., submitted to the Government of India India on October 8, 1945 and Report of Intelligence Bureau, New Delhi, dated May 19, 1946 (No. C-5);

- III) Diary of Lord Mountbatten ;
- IV) Anglo-American Intelligence Report ;
- v) Communication between Mac Aurther and Lord Mountbatten relating to Subhas Chandra Bose ;
- vi) H.Q. Main File 273 Misc.I.N.A. 10 Misc. ;
- vii) File No. 249-INA-I and II(H) G.H.Q. case on Subhas Chandra Bose ;
- viii) Secret No. 63/2/10 G.S. I(b) H.Q. SACSEA COMMISSION No. I, Saigon, 18th October, 1945 ;
- ix) Report of SACSEA COMMISSION I, relating to Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A. ;
- x) Allied Secret Report Sub : Subhas Chandra Bose and INA ;
- xi) Report of SEATIC SECTION Intelligence Assalt Unit. 7th IND DIV ALF SIAM with all the SEATIC DOCUMENTS 128;
- xii) Records of Tokyo Trial (War Criminals) ;
- b) War Records of U.S.A. relating to Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A. including ;
 - i) U.S. Naval Intelligence Report relating to Netaji's activities from 17th August to 25th August;
 - ii) Communication from General Mac Aurther to the U.S.A. President Trueman between August 17, to August 31, 1945 regarding Subhas Chandra Bose;
 - iii) Allied Intelligence Report on Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A.;
 - iv) Record of Tokyo Trial (War Criminals) ;
 - v) Communication between Mac Aurther and Mountbatten during the period of August 17 and August 31, 1945 relating to Subhas Chandra Bose.

- c) War records of U.S.S.R. in connection with Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A.
- d) War records of Japan from 1944 to August 31, 1945 in relation with Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A.
- e) War records of Germany (both East & West) from 1941 to 1943 relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A.
- f) War records of China with special reference, presence and activities of Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A. personnels at Shanghai, Unan and Sinkiang during July and August, 1945.
- g) Prime Minister's Secretariat File during the period of Pandit Nehru including the following Secret Files :

1A, 2-A, 3-A, 6-A, 8-A, 16-A [U.O. Note No. D/S-86 6, dated August 24, 1953, from P.M's Secretariat to Mohd. Yunus, MEA (SEA. BR)], 17-A (U.O. Note No. D.3788-8EA/53, dated August 27, 1953, from Mohd. Yunus US, ME A (SEA) to P.M's Secretariat, 27-A [Memo No. 2/53/19713/601 (151) dated October 13, 1953 from Mohd. Yunus. MEA (SEA) to P.M's Secretariat], 33-B (letter No. 20/62 (Accts) dated April 12, 1954, from the Joint Secretary INA (Enquiry and Relief Committee, 82, Daryaganj, Delhi to the President), 34-A (Rajya Sab Sabha's Starred Question No. 560 dated September, 28, 1954), 35-B (Note for supplimentaries), 37-A (Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 334 dated August 2, 1955), 37-BCD (Enclosures to S.No. 37-A). And Notes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 29, File No. 23 (156)/51-P.M. [Indian National Army (INA) in the Far East], 23(II)/56-57PM [INA Treasure], 12 (226)/56 PM [Investigation into the circumstances leading to the death of Subhas Chandra Bose]

- h) History of INA (by Late Dr. Pratul Chandra Gupt) lies with the Defence Department since long.

CONCLUSION:

In 1945-46 and even some years after the British left India, all news about the report of alleged incident of Taihoku were found to be very scanty, hazy and highly confusing. These news appeared as more misleading than giving any direct clue to find the truth about the report of Netaji's alleged death. The Anglo-American investigating agencies could get hold of only a few documents like the four signals at Bangkok and five photographs from Tokyo. These agencies had, therefore, to rely more on the oral evidence from the Japanese and the INA sources than on positive documents to arrive at any definite conclusion about their findings.

However, in later years, when the post-war political complications, receded, more facts came to light first before Shah Nawaz Committee in 1956 and then before Khosla Commission in 1970. These facts have been carefully scrutinised and analysed in the foregoing chapters, and briefly summarised in the present one. After what have been found factually uptill now, they lead to one and only one conclusion, that the story of Netaji's alleged death at Taihoku was deliberately concocted by the Japanese authorities to enable him to reach the Russian territory across the Muncharian border.

After coming to know the fact of Bose's escape, the Wavell Government in Delhi in 1945 faced a serious dilemma regarding the course of their "treatment of Bose". They were confronted with many problems : Will they ask the country which kept Bose in secret custody to surrender him to the British authority ? After getting Bose in their hands will they try and hang him ? Or, will they intern him either in India or in some remote island in the Indian Ocean ? The Home Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, Sir Mudie, prepared a 'Note' for Wavell incorporating various suggestions for "treatment of Bose". It was prepared on August 23, 1945, i.e. 7 days after the announcement of Bose's death by the Tokyo Radio. The Viceroy of India in 1945 approved this 'Note' and carried it to London for its final approval by the British Cabinet. The U.K. Cabinet, with Mr. Attlee in the chair, cleared this 'Note' on October 25, 1945, i.e. 67 days after the report of Netaji's alleged death. This 'Note' included various alternatives "regarding treatment of Bose" ;,

namely to "(a), bring him back to India and try him either for waging war or under the Enemy Agents Ordinance; (b) have him tried by a court in Burma or Malaya for waging war against the King in that country; (c) have him tried by a military court outside India; (d) intern him in India; (e) intern him in some British possession i.e. Seychelles Islands".

After analysing the pros and cons of all these suggested measures to punish and execute or intern Bose, - the 'Note' finally decided to :

"LEAVE HIM WHERE HE IS AND DON'T ASK FOR HIS SURRENDER... IN MANY WAYS THE EASIEST COURSE WOULD BE TO LEAVE HIM WHERE HE IS AND NOT ASK FOR HIS RELEASE. HE MIGHT, OF COURSE, IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES BE WELCOMED BY THE RUSSIANS. THIS COURSE WOULD RAISE FEWEST IMMEDIATE POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES".

Could there be any other more definite revelation than the above 'Note' that the British Government knew quite positively where Netaji escaped and where he was compelled to stay for the reason beyond his control ? Notwithstanding this positive information regarding the whereabouts of Bose, the British Government considered it politically more prudent or expedient for them not to publicly disclose the matter at that time, nor to ask as well for his hand-over to them for his trial for waging war against the 'king' but "to leave him where he is". For 30 years the British Government withheld this explosive information from the Indian people. They must have done it for the sake of their Imperialist interest, but what about our own Government, - the first Government of Free India ? What did they do for Netaji ? Was it unknown to them where Netaji was compelled to stay for unavoidable circumstances reason beyond his control ?

What a nation we are ? The mightiest revolutionary who plunged himself in total abandon, oblivious of all consequences about himself, to create an epoch-making legend of the Indian Revolution, for him the Government made no worthwhile effort to know what really happened to him ! Could India achieve independence, - the independence of the whole sub-continent, - so soon after the victory of the British Power in the Second World

War had its citadel not blasted by the Azad Hind Revolution led by Netaji ? Since 1857 such a revolutionary convulsion had never happened in India, and never before the People and the Army moved together to fight for Indian independence. It was the last and the greatest occasion when the Hindus, the Muslims, the Sikhs, the Christians, - the people of all communities from all corners of India forged a revolutionary unity of unprecedented dimension for unitedly fighting for their freedom under inspiration of the legends of Netaji and his INA.

The Indian independence owes much to Netaji. It was Netaji who finally compelled the British Power to withdraw from India. When Lord Attlee visited India as a private citizen after transference of power, he was asked by the Governor of West Bengal at Calcutta. - "why the British left India after their victory in the war ?" The former Prime Minister of U.K. who piloted the Indian Independence Bill in the House of Commons straightway replied, "It was because of Subhas Bose". But how ungrateful the leaders of power in free India proved to be to Netaji ! Not only they did nothing seriously to find out what really happened to him, and made every effort to bring him back to his motherland, they tried to see instead that he was buried in the country where he was compelled to stay for reason beyond his control by creating an impression in the minds of the Indian people as if Netaji really died after an air crash at Taihoku.

What the nation will do now ? How will the Indian people react to the fact of startling revelation made in the 'Top Secret' British document to the effect that Netaji did not die in the alleged air crash but escaped to Russia under the cover of false announcement of his death ? Will the Government of India now make an all-out effort to unearth the mystery shrouding the fate of the greatest national hero of our freedom, - the greatest revolutionary pilgrim of India ? If we fail, the posterity will never forgive us !

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MOST IMMEDIATE

Ministry of Home Affairs
Freedom Fighters' Division

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Sub:- Demands made by All India Freedom
Fighters Organisation and All India
Netaji Memorial Committee.

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The Prime Minister's Office have asked for
comments on certain demands made by All India Freedom
Fighters' Organisation and All India Netaji Memorial
Committee. Copies of the memorandum dtd. 2-7-90 *received*
issued from these Organisations are enclosed. The
demands inter-alia include:-

To bring Netaji's ashes from Japan and to
arrange movement of the procession carrying
Netaji ashes throughout the country.

2. It is, therefore, requested that the matter may
kindly be looked into and suitable reply may be sent
to P.M.'s Office direct under intimation to this
Division.

See
(V.D. ALAM)

UNDER SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA

✓ Under Secy. (East Asia) (Mrs. Narender Chauhan)
Min. of External Affairs.

MHA UC. No. 4/50/90-FF(P) dated: 5/10/90

278/15(EA)/90
19/10

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PHONE: 3323967

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3/7/90
LL INDIA FREEDOM FIGHTERS ORGANISATION

7 Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi-110 001.

Sheel Bhadra Yajee
Ex- P.

Ref.No.

Dated 2 July 1990

Dear Shri V.P. Singh,
Jai Hind.

1. Indian National Army was raised by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in South East Asia. I.N.A. was composed of ex-Indian Army personnel who were prisoners of war of Japanese Government and civilians of Indian origin residing in South East Asia.

2. Civilians of Indian origin in South East Asia volunteered to join the Armed Struggle under the leadership of Netaji with men, money and material. Those in service left their service to join the National Movement and those employed in other occupations left their occupations, donated their life savings and offered their services for the noble cause.

3. In April 1945, the war took a reverse course. Netaji and his allies lost the war. Members of the Indian National Army and Indian Independence League were rounded up, detained, interrogated and harassed by the British Military Authorities. Indian Army personnel were court martialled, dismissed from service and detained in detention camps. Civilians were thrown out of jobs and occupations.

4. On 15th August 1972, Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme was introduced by the Government of India. Applications from freedom fighters were invited. Ex-Members of Indian Independence League/Indian National Army applied for F.F. Pension. A large number of civilians of Indian

.....2.

This was given
to P.M. today -
This may kindly
be got examined
and necessary
action taken.

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origin who had joined the National Movement were not in a position to furnish documentary evidence of their suffering in I.N.A. to substantiate their claim for F.F. Pension. Their applications could not be finalised because of lack of documentary evidence. Because of peculiar nature and venue of the movement and technicalities of military organisation, a committee under the chairmanship of Gen. Shah Nawaz Khan was set up by the Union Government to process and scrutinise I.N.A. cases. Later on Col. P.S. Raturi was appointed O.S.D. (INA) to process and scrutinise the I.N.A. cases. In March 1988, an I.N.A. Pension Review Committee was formed which worked till November 1989. Since the dissolution of the Committee, no cases of ex-I.N.A. Personnel have been finalised. I, therefore, request you kindly to appoint I.N.A. Committee, comprising of two local members namely Col. P.S. Raturi and Captain S.S. Yadava to assist the F.F. Division in disposing off the pending cases expeditiously. The need of the committee is, because the officials of Ministry of Home Affairs are not conversant with the technicalities of I.N.A. Movement and because of this thousands of genuine cases have been lying in cold storage of F.F. Division since long and the veteran freedom fighters are dying day by day without S.S.S. Pension which they ^{so} richly deserve.

Yours sincerely,

Sheel Bhadra Yajee
(SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE)

Shri V.P. Singh
Prime Minister
Govt. of India
NEW DELHI.

अखिल भारतीय स्वतंत्रता सेनानी संगठन
ALL INDIA FREEDOM FIGHTERS' ORGANISATION

7, JANTAR MANTAR ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

Ref. No. AIFFD./.../1990

Dated... 2nd, July 1990

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Ch. Ranbir Singh, Ex M.P., Haryana
Manmath Nath Gupt. New Delhi
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Capt. Ranjit Singh, INA, Punjab

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Prof. Mahesh Dutt Mishra Ex MP. M.P.

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S.K. Sinha, Bihar
Bansi Lal Lohadia, Ex M.P., Rajasthan
Com. J.S. Anand Ex. M.P. Punjab
Lt. S.V.V. Murugesan, INA, Tamilnadu
Sunderlal Jain, Maharashtra

Memorandum submitted to the Prime

Minister of India by the prominent Freedom

Fighters who waited upon the Prime Minister on
2nd, July 1990.

1. Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme was introduced in 1972 and applications were invited from prospective Freedom Fighters. We are constrained to say that fifty percent applications have not so far been finalised and the aged freedom fighters are under the strain of mental torture.

2. Exmembers of the Indian Independence League/Indian National Army, who joined the Armed Struggle under the leadership of Netaji, from general public and Freedom Fighters from West Pakistan and Bangla Desh, are not in a position to substantiate their claim with official record.

We, therefore, request the Union Government to appoint three committees namely I.N.A. Pension Review Committee, comprising of two local members, Col. P.S. Raturi and Captain S.S. Yadava, Punjab Pension Review Committee and Bengal Pension Review Committee to finalise the pending cases of INA personnel, freedom fighters of Punjab and Bengal.

This was given to P.M. today. This may be kindly examined and necessary action taken
JS(p) 2/7/90

अखिल भारतीय स्वतंत्रता सेनानी संगठन
ALL INDIA FREEDOM FIGHTERS' ORGANISATION
 7, JANTAR MANTAR ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

Ref. No. AIFFD.....

Dated.....199

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 Com. Shiv Verma. U.P.
 P.K. Khanna, Ex M.P., U.P.
 Ch. Ranbir Singh, Ex M.P., Haryana
 Manmath Nath Gupt. New Delhi
 Com. Ram Kishan, Ex M.P., Punjab
 Col. Mahboob Ahmad, INA, Bihar
 Satish Chandra Saha, West Bengal
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 Lt. Smt. Manvati Arya, INA, U.P.
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 Com. J.S. Anand Ex. M.P. Punjab
 Lt. S.V.V. Murugesan, INA, Tamilnadu
 Sunilferal Jain, Maharashtra

: 2 :

3. Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme was introduced after 25 years. During this period (15.8.1947 to 15.8.1972) a large number of freedom fighters died. Their spouses or dependents did not apply for pension under the wrong notion that the dependents or spouses cannot apply. We, therefore, request the Union Government to allow the deserving spouses/dependents of the freedom fighters who died before 15.8.1972 to apply as a special case. Besides the legal heirs of this category of freedom fighters may be awarded Tamra Patras and those who cannot be sanctioned pension may be awarded necessary certificates to enable them to apply for the concessions meant for freedom fighters.

4. We request the Union Government to make provisions for the admission of children/grand children of freedom fighters to professional institutions, i.e., Medical, Engineering etc., as the freedom fighters could not provide proper education and look after their children during freedom struggle.

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Phone : 3323967

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Re No. AIFFD.....

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Sunderlal Jain, Maharashtra

: 3 :

5. The previous Government had invited applications from Freedom Fighters who want to visit Andaman and Nicobar Islands, but the applications have been, it appears, consigned to cold storage. We request the Government to afford an opportunity to applicants to visit the aforesaid islands. Lakshadweep Islands are the part of Indian Union. This concession may be extended to Lakshadweep Islands as well.

6. Children of Freedom Fighters, born when they were in jails, and the members of the Bal Sena (raised under the leadership of Netaji) may be made eligible for grant of S.S.S. Pension Scheme as members of Bal Sena received military training and rendered valuable service for the national cause.

7. We urge upon the Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister to raise the amount of Delhi Union Territory F.F. Pension from Rs.150/ to Rs.400/ P.M. and extend the scheme to the freedom fighters of Chandigarh Union Territory as well.

अखिल भारतीय स्वतंत्रता सेनानी संगठन
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Com. J.S. Anand Ex. M.P. Punjab
Lt. S.V.V. Murugesan, INA, Tamilnadu
Sunderlal Jain, Maharashtra

: 4 :

8. This organisation is much pleased to know that Shri Nelson Mandela is visiting our country. We request the Prime Minister to allot one hour from the busy programme of Shri Mandela to the freedom fighters of India to enable them to meet him.

Sheel Bhadra Yajee
SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE
WORKING PRESIDENT,
A.I.F.F.C.

Shashi Bhushan
SHASHI BHUSHAN
Ex-M.P.
Geeneral Secretary

S.S. Yadava
S.S. YADAVA
General Secretary

Ram Kishan
Com. Ram Krishan, Ex.M.P.
Member Presidium
A.I.F.F.O.

Ch. Ranbir Singh
CH. RANBIR SINGH
EX. M.P. MEMBER
PRESIDIUM,
A.I.F.F.O.

V. L. Sunder Rao
Gen. Secy, A.I.F.F.O

Phone : 273532

ALL INDIA NETAJI MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

82, DARYA GANJ, NEW DELHI - 110002

Ref. No. AINMC/ /1990

Dated 2nd July 1990

President

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee

Ex-M. P.

Phone : 3323967

Prominent Freedom Fighters and I.N.A. officers, who assembled in New Delhi, recently finalised the following memorandum to be presented to Shri V.P. Singh, Prime Minister of India.

1. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's role in the Freedom Struggle in India as well as abroad has been unique, his sacrifices unparalleled, his contribution in the field of national integration ideal, which will serve as torch bearer for guiding the destiny of our nation and the coming generations. Netaji dedicated his whole life in the service of the nation. His contribution in organising the Indian National Army to win freedom for India from British Imperialism and the part played by the I.N.A. in inspiring the Indians living abroad to undergo heavy sacrifices and I.N.A.'s impact on British Indian Armed Forces and Indian Masses is now a part of history.

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Phone : 273532

ALI INDIA NETAJI MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

82, DARYA GANJ, NEW DELHI - 110002

Ref. No.

Dated

President

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee

Ex-M. P.

Phone : 3323967

: 2 :

2. It is our misfortune that Netaji who has been a great leader of national as well as international stature and who served the country twice as President of Indian National Congress, Head of Provisional Government of Azad Hind recognised by 9 sovereign powers of the world, Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army, died in air crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku in Taiwan. Though it is over 45 years, the sacred ashes of Netaji are yet lying in Renkoji Temple in Tokyo (Japan).

3. Because of reverence and gratitude which the nation had for Netaji, his death was not considered by the masses in India as based on facts. Therefore, the Government of India appointed two commissions which also confirmed Netaji's SAD DEMISE in the air crash. After hearing Colonel Habib-ur-Rehman, even Mahatma Gandhi accepted his version. The fact about death of Netaji is also

Phone : 273532

ALL INDIA NETAJI MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

8, DARYA GANJ, NEW DELHI - 110002

Ref. No.

Dated

President

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee

Ex-M. P.

Phone : 3323967

: 3 :

borne out by the statements made by some of the prominent associates of Netaji in Singapore, Bangkok, Kualalumpur (Malaysia), Japan during the recent visit of one of our General Secretaries.

4. We, the freedom fighters, who are now in the evening of our lives, feel guilty that even after the lapse of 45 years, we have not been able to honour Netaji and have even failed to bring the sacred ashes to the motherland for which Netaji lived and sacrificed his life. We, therefore, demand and request the National Front Government to kindly take the initiative with the active support of All India Freedom Fighters Organisation, New Delhi and All India Azad Hind Fauj Association, New Delhi, to create national consciousness and take up the proposal to:-

- (a) bring Netaji's ashes from Japan with full State Honours of the Head of a State,

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Phone : 273532

ALL INDIA NETAJI MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

82, DARYA GANJ, NEW DELHI - 110002

Ref. No.

Dated

President

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee

Ex-M. P.

Phone : 3323967

: 4 :

arrange movement of the procession carrying Netaji's ashes throughout the country with a view to spread the spirit of national integration, so badly required, in the national interest, without loss of time;

- (b) honour Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose with posthumous award of BHARAT RATNA;
- (c) set up a suitable and befitting memorial in the name of Netaji in New Delhi (Capital of India) and other metropolitan cities of India;
- (d) name Delhi University after Netaji;
- (e) build a freedom fighters home, a suitable library and a hall in New Delhi, where meetings may be held;

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Phone : 273532

ALL INDIA NETAJI MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

82, DARYA GANJ, NEW DELHI - 110002

12

Ref. No.

Dated

President

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee

Ex-M. P.

Phone : 3323967

: 5 :

(f) set up an Institute of National Integration to provide information and education and inculcate the spirit of national integration especially in the young membris of Parliament and Legislatures etc.

Sheel Bhadra Yajee
Sheel Bhadra Yajee
Working President
A.I.F.F.O.

V.L.S. Rao
V.L. SUNDER RAO
Gen. Secretary,
A. I. F. F. O.

S.S. Yadava
S.S. YADAVA
Gen. Secretary,
A. I. F. F. O.

Shashi Bhushan
Shashi Bhushan
Ex.M.P.
General Secretary

Indira Singh
Ch. Ranbir Singh
Ex. M.P.
Member Presidium
A.I.F.F.O.

Ram Krishan
Com. Ram Krishan, Ex.M.P.
Member Presidium
A.I.F.F.O.

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No. C. 551/13/81-7P
Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

28

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is reported to have died in Taipei, Taiwan, on 18th August, 1945. His body was cremated two days later and the ashes carried to Japan. It appears that the ashes were initially kept at the residence of Shri A.M. Sahai (ex-Minister of Netaji's Cabinet) in Tokyo, and subsequently taken to the Renkoji Buddhist temple in Nakano, Tokyo, where they have been maintained to this day.

2. Two commissions of enquiry were appointed by the Government of India on the question of Netaji's death in the air crash on 18/8/45. The first enquiry committee set up in 1956 was headed by the late Shah Nawaz Khan and included Netaji's elder brother Shri S.C. Bose. The majority opinion was that Netaji met his death in the air crash and that the ashes at the Renkoji temple were that of Netaji. Netaji's brother Shri S.C. Bose gave a dissenting view.

3. In 1970 one man committee of Justice G.D. Khosla also concluded that the casket lodged in the Renkoji Temple contained the ashes of Netaji. Despite this there are many who still doubt the veracity of the ashes. In January 1982, Shri S.C. Bose had written to the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi saying that there was no proof of the so-called ashes were genuine.

4. Lately Shri L. Joychandra Singh and Shri Sheel Bhadra Yaji who have been associated with Netaji have separately been mounting a campaign to bring back the ashes which are presently lodged at the Renkoji temple in Japan.

5. The most vocal objection to the return of the ashes from the Netaji Subhash Research Foundation of Jaipur which has been contesting the veracity of the ashes. A writ petition No. 902/84 was filed in Rajasthan High Court by one Shri Nand Lal Sharma who claimed to be an associate of Netaji. The petitioner submitted that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was still alive and petitioned the Rajasthan High Court to open a judicial enquiry at the international level on the whereabouts of Netaji. Subsequently, Justice S.N. Bhargava of the Rajasthan High Court in his judgement of 18th January 1986 ordered inter alia that the Government of India to "look into the matter dispassionately and hear the petitioner in person patiently and examine the documents and the evidence that he wants to produce in support of his contention, and then come to a definite conclusion". The court further directed that "six months time will be sufficient for the Union of India to examine the whole matter afresh with open mind and if necessary, invite public in general to produce material whatever it want in this connection before coming to a prima facie decision as to whether fresh Commission is necessary or not. Petitioner should submit all his papers, evidence and other material before Government of India and

time of six months will start from the date the material is filed by the petitioner."

6. Subsequently, it was brought to the notice of this Ministry that the petitioner had died. Coordination Division had, therefore, informed Shri Talekar Counsel of the late petitioner that as the petitioner had passed away before the meeting with the MEA/Government of India representative could take place, no further action was called for on the part of the Government of India.

7. We have since received a notice from Advocate Shri Ganga Lahari Pareek(F/A) addressed to EAM referring to the High Court order and restraining GOI from bringing the ashes to India. An identical notice has been sent to the Japanese Embassy.

8. L&T Division may kindly examine and let us have their views on the applicability of the High Court decision in the light of the notice sent by the Advocate for the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation. A copy of the judgement and letter under reference is enclosed for information. This may please be treated as urgent.

This issues with the approval of JS(EA).

(PRIMROSE R. SHARMA)
DIRECTOR(EA-II)
26/9/90

Director(L&T)
Patiala House.

SANKAR SANYAL

Immediate

Reminder to letter dated: 11 MAY 1990.

5151-75(EN)/90

7/9/90

4782

PHONE-136
TEMPLE STREET
JALPAIGURI-735101
INDIA

1 SEPTEMBER 1990.

6869/EAD/90
13/9

JS(EN)

5-3974/EAM/90
6/9

PRIME MINISTER V.P. SINGH,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
NEW DELHI - 110011.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER I.K. GUZRAL,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
NEW DELHI - 110044.

Dear Prime Minister/ External Affairs Minister :

This is to confirm my telegrams of date regarding the very attempts of bringing down to India the FAKE ASHES of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, Japan - afresh. De novo I have had the reasons obvious in requesting your goodselves not to indulge in such nefarious as also the dubious act of bring down to India the FAKE ASHES.

A reference of letter No.4/31/88 -FF (P) dated 16 MAY 1988 addressed to me by an Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi-110003 is being made here for kind information and to such action so as to keep your selves off alike Prime Minister/Shrimati Indira Gandhi and her successor Sri Rajib Gandhi in the context of such glaring instances as that of the fact that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose never died in Air Crash in Tayku Air Field in Taipai. This has also in reference to letter of request to Shri R. Venkataraman, President of India.

Trust you shall do the needful and would keep your stature Political & Human ever more high and splendid and, in the meantime, with all the good wishes from a veteran freedom fighter,

Yours sincerely,
S. Sanyal.
S. SANYAL.

cc to: PRESS TRUST OF INDIA,
PARLIAMENT STREET
NEW DELHI -110001.

THE BARTAMAN, CALCUTTA - 700014...&...

5462/J5(EA)/90

1/10/90

479

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
Ex. संसद् सदस्य
(लोक सभा)



8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032

Sept 13/1990

Dear Shri Gujral,

I had sent you earlier a copy of Prime Minister's letter to me in which he informed

' I have received your letter of May 17, 1990 regarding high level investigations into secret documents on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, believed to be available in the USSR, UK, Japan and the USA.

I have asked the Ministry of External Affairs to look into this.'

You know that recently I had been to USA and London. At Washington I contacted Dr. Abid Hussain, our Ambassador there and Shri Kuldip Nayar our High Commissioner at London. I was informed by them that they have not got any directive yet about inquiry into documents with the Govt. of USA and UK on Netaji. This means Investigative Inquiry on Netaji has yet to be started.

In this connection I have written a letter to the Prime Minister, a copy of which is enclosed for your perusal.

I hope to meet you soon to inform about my idea of planning for the Investigative Inquiry on Disappearance of Netaji.

I know about deep regard of your family and yourself about Netaji. The proposed Investigative Inquiry will be, perhaps, the last move after 45 years, to finally know what really happened to our legendary hero of national liberation, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. 1977-79 Janata Govt. did something for Netaji and now much is expected from the National Front (Janata Dal) Govt. and its Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs.

Unless one feels deeply about our national debt to Netaji, none will take up the issue of searching to know about the ultimate fate of this Great Son of India with all seriousness.

I have confidence and trust in you to take up the move to institute an Investigative Inquiry on Netaji's disappearance in a right spirit of patriotic sacredness.

You are now very worried and engaged to sort out the problems of the Indians in Kuwait and Iraq. May God help you to succeed in your effort.

With best wishes,

Shri I.K.Gujral
Minister of External Affairs
Government of India
New Delhi

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha
(SAMAR GUHA)

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
EX. MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



480
8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032

September 11/1990

Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh
Prime Minister of India
New Delhi

Dear Prime Minister,

You have very patriotically responded to the representation for making an all-out effort to find out what really happened to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, the legendary hero of Indian Freedom.

You very kindly wrote to me on June 7, 1990 :

'I have received your letter of May 17, 1990 regarding high level investigations into secret documents on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, believed to be available in the USSR, UK, Japan and the USA.

I have asked the Ministry of External Affairs to look into this.'

I have also been informed that a similar assurance has been given to Shri Chitta Basu, M.P and his Forward Bloc friends when they met you recently to submit a memorandum on 'disappearance of Netaji'.

I hope that you have already asked the Minister of External Affairs, Shri I.K.Gujral, for making an Investigative Inquiry into the documents believed to be available with the Governments of the USSR, UK, Japan and the USA relating to disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I had been recently to USA and London. After contacting our Ambassador Dr. Abid Hussain at Washington and our High Commissioner Shri Kuldip Nayar at London, I came to know that the initial process for such Investigative Inquiry has not been started.

The process of such Investigative Inquiry to find out secret documents from these four Governments about Netaji may not be an easy task. UK and USA have lingering inhibitions about Netaji and USSR and Japan are very secretive by tradition.

The whole matter for Investigative Inquiry will need careful planning by an expert team to make the inquiry effective.

To make a beginning of the inquiry, requests for cooperation with the Indian Investigative Inquiry by the Government of the USSR, UK, Japan and USA have to be made by the Prime Minister of India. Only then these Governments will take up the matter with necessary seriousness.

It is not perhaps unknown to you that for the last three decades I am fighting for an effective probe to find out the facts about Netaji's



destiny. I have presented my documentary book - 'Netaji - Dead or Alive' to you. It was on the basis of the documents produced in this book that Shri Morarji Desai, as Janata Prime Minister, officially rejected the findings of Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission as unacceptable.

I hope to meet you soon in Delhi to place my plan for Investigative Netaji Inquiry.

India must know finally where did Netaji go after the fall of Japan and what happened to him thereafter.

Dear Prime Minister ! India owes an irrepayble debt to our greatest national hero but for whose total sacrifice and absolute revolutionary plunge, India would not have achieved freedom so soon after the Allied Victory in the last Great War. Indian people believe, you will do your best to find out the ultimate destiny of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

With regards and namaskar,

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha

(SAMAR GUHA)

सुभाषिनी अली

संसद सदस्य
(लोकसभा)



25

15/241, सिविल लाइन्स

कानपुर-208 001

फोन : 211393, 211756

17th September, 1990

Shri I.K. Gujral
Minister for External
Affairs,
Govt. of India,
NEW DELHI

V-3154/EA/19
19/9

Dear ~~Shri Gujral~~, *Indrajit*,

My mother and father - Lt. Col Lakshmi Sahgal and Col P.K Sahgal returned to New Delhi on the 2nd of Sept. after visiting Japan, Malaysia and Singapore. They had gone to Japan on the invitation of the Subhas Bose Academy to attend the ceremony on the 18th of August to commemorate the death anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

On the 3rd of September they met the Hon'ble Prime Minister. I was also present at the meeting. During this meeting they gave a detailed account of their visits to the Prime Minister and requested him to initiate immediate steps to bring back Netajis' Ashes with due honour.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister was pleased to give them a patient hearing and also telephoned you in this regard.

On his return to Kanpur, my father has addressed a letter to you requesting you to please initiate action regarding bringing back Netajis' Ashes and other matters which were urged upon him by people of Indian origin living in Malaysia and Singapore and who had participated in the struggle for Indias' Freedom under Netaji.

I have great pleasure in forwarding the letter to you and shall be most grateful if you could please give your personal attention to these matters and ensure early action by your Ministry.

With Best regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Subhashni

(SUBHASHNI ALI)



11826/FS/90
8/11

8807/EBD/90
13/11/90

75

4827 7092 JS/KD/Ko
12/11

भारत का राजदूत
वाशिंगटन, डी० सी०
AMBASSADOR OF INDIA
2107 MASSACHUSETTS AVE. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008

October 22, 1990.

My Dear Muchkund,

I am forwarding along with this letter a copy of the letter I have received from Professor Samar Guha, M.P. together with its enclosures.

2. I am also forwarding a copy of the letter which the Prime Minister has written to Professor Samar Guha. It will be seen from the Prime Minister's reply that the request of Professor Samar Guha has been forwarded to the Ministry of External Affairs to look into the matter.

3. I am sure that the request of Professor Samar Guha must be engaging the attention of the Ministry.

It will be necessary to
prepare a self-
contained note for
briefing P.M. on this subject.

With Best Wishes
Yours (sincerely,

(ABID HUSSAIN)

Shri Muchkund Dubey,
Foreign Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

Encl: as above.

JS(EA)
urgent. p.p.u
on file to JS(EA) or
NR
12/11
DN(JRM)

Date... 9.8.90

Dear Dr. Hussain,

I am leaving for Calcutta via London on 12th August. I am extremely sorry for not being able to meet the nephew of my dear friend Lali Major Abid Hasan. He had the rare fortune of accompanying Nilaji in his historic journey from Germany to Singapore. None else, - not even an admiral or any general ^{of any nation} ever dared such a submarine journey at any time before the unprecedented revolutionary adventure of Nilaji. Abid Hasanbhai was the only Indian companion of Nilaji. You know he was a man of somewhat large nature. He could not complete the account of this historic journey for the Indian people. My wife and myself fell sick last week and that was the reason for my failing to go to Washington.

I wanted to meet you particularly to discuss about the modalities of an investigative inquiry into the secret documents about Nilaji. Subhas Chandra Bose believed to be available with the governments of the USSR, UK, Japan and USA.

I believe you know that ^{two} inquiries about Nilaji's 'disappearance' ^{that one} made first by the Shah Nawaz Committee in 1956 and then by Justice Khosla in 1970 failed to convince Parliament about the correctness of their findings. In 1978, Shri Morarji Desai, as the Prime Minister of the

Please see
if we could
do something
in the
matter.
They will
discuss it
your
Government.
We
will
Lali

Janata Govt asked the Law Ministry to review the two reports and go through ^{my} documentary book, 'Nitya - Dead or Alive'. On the basis of this Ministry's recommendation, Morarji Bhai announced a cabinet decision ~~to reject~~ in Lok Sabha (1978, 3rd Sept.) to reject the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission. But before any further move could be initiated about the matter Janata Govt. was out of power.

In 1989 a distinguished Calcutta engineer who had been many years in Russia and knows Russian well told ~~me~~ press that a German-Jew ^{mean} told him that he met 'Bose' in a Siberian camp for re-indoctrination of the war captives. I wrote a letter to the Russian leader Gorbachev seeking confirmation about this report. As it remained unresponded our former president N. Sanjiva Reddy and a former Congress president S. Nijalingappa separately forwarded ~~to~~ my letter to Mr. Gorbachev. These two letters also remained unreflected.

I then took up the matter with ~~our~~ our President R. Venkatraman, ^{the Prime Minister} and the Minister of External Affairs. Prime Minister readily responded to my request to start an investigative inquiry into the secret documents about Nitya believed to be available with the governments of the USSR, UK, Japan and the USA.

This will be perhaps the last move to find out what really happened to this legendary hero of our national liberation.

Date.....

Success of this new move will depend on sympathetic response and attitude of co-operation of these four concerned governments. The USA and the UK Govt may still entertain some prejudice against Netaji because of his association with the Axis Powers during war days.

It will wholly depend on our Embassies in Washington, London, Moscow and Tokyo ^{last} how they can manage to persuade these four governments - to open up their archives to go through the secret & classified and unclassified documents - for investigative enquiry into the issue of 'disappearance' of Netaji.

So far as the US Administration is concerned, Gen. MacArthur of the Pacific Command of the US Army in 1945 instituted an enquiry soon after Tokyo broadcast of alleged air crash death of Netaji on August 18, 1945 at Taipei in Taiwan. But the findings of this report was not published. It also came out in the press that Admiral Mountbatten of the S.E.A Allied Command also separately enquired into the death report of Bose. Findings of this report was also not published. Both UK and USA pursued the matter and tried to 'track and trap' Bose.

If our Washington Embassy succeeds to get MacArthur Inquiry report and other information about disappearance of Nelayi, it will create a responsive situation for U.K., USSR and Japan to co-operate with the Indian enquiry.

For availing documentary fact, information etc about the episode of disappearance of Nelayi and the report of the inquiries made by the Govt of India I am sending to you the following materials along with this letter:

1. 'Nelayi - Dead & Alive' by Samar Guha
2. Copy of the letter sent to Helthail Gavrachev, and
2. Copies of the letters from (i) President of India and (ii) the Prime Minister.

I have written letters to 'New York Times' and 'Washington Post' but I am afraid if they will be published because matters are hand-written. I have sent an article, ~~by~~ hand written, to 'India Abroad'. Kindly ask your office to see if they are published and if published I shall be thankful if you go through them.

I believe and trust that not only as our ambassador but also as a ~~nephew~~ nephew of Nelayi's very trusted colleague Major Abid Hasan, you will do your best to secure all US documents about Nelayi.

Expecting an informal reply from you.

With my best wishes to all your

family members and yourself. Yours sincerely

Samar Guha

Dr. Abid Hasan
Indian Ambassador, USA.



PRIME MINISTER

New Delhi
June 7, 1990

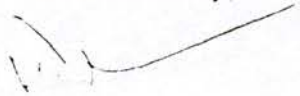
Dear Prof. Guha,

I have received your letter of May 17, 1990 regarding high level investigations into secret documents on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, believed to be available in the USSR, UK, Japan and the USA.

I have asked the Ministry of External Affairs to look into this.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,


[Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

Prof. Samar Guha
B/2, Central Park
Calcutta - 700 032

486

TELEX

MOST IMMEDIATE

FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

TO : INDEMBASSY TOKYO *09/10/90*

DCM FROM PR SHARMA, DIRECTOR(JKM)

YOU ARE AWARE OF THE DISPUTE REGARDING ASHES OF
NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE. PM'S OFFICE REQUIRES ALL
INFORMATION REGARDING THE ASHES OF NETAJI WHICH ARE PRESENTLY
HOUSED AT THE RENKOJI TEMPLE IN TOKYO. GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD
KINDLY SEND US ALL MATERIAL AVAILABLE WITH YOU ~~YOU~~ PARTICULARLY
WITH REFERENCE TO THE REQUESTS MADE BY THE WAR VETERNS AND
ASSOCIATES OF NETAJI IN JAPAN AND THE ANNUAL CEREMONY AT THE
RENKOJI TEMPLE IN AUGUST THIS YEAR. *REGARDS*

N.T.T.

DATED: 9/10/90

Pl issue

[Signature]
(PRIMROSE R. SHARMA)
DIRECTOR(JKM)

Yadav

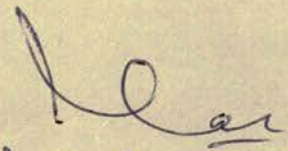
o/c

Ministry of Home Affairs
Freedom Fighters' Division
FF(P) Section

Dy No. 2745/90-FF(P)

(31)

With reference to this Ministry's no. No. 4/50/90-FF(P) dt. 5-10-90 regarding Demands made by All India Freedom Fighters Organisation and All India Netaji Memorial Committee; Ministry of External Affairs (East Asia Divn) may please find enclosed a reference received from P.M.'s Office regarding bringing of "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose to India for n.a.


(Ish Kumar) 11.10.90
Section Officer

Mrs. Narendra Chauhan,
Under Secy. (East Asia),
Ministry of External Affairs

343/US(SA)/90
16/X/

To be
filed in
ashes
file.

PA to
DR (JKM)

xl
16/X

28 AUGUST 1990.

Dear Shri Singh,

re: Telegrams dated, 11th MAY, 1990 and the following letters apropos of "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which again being attempted to bringing in India and copies of two letters dated: 14 AUGUST & 24 AUGUST addressed to Shri R. Venkataraman, President of India and to Shri I.K. Gujral, External Affairs Minister, GOI respectively - enclosed.

And further to my letters pertaining to above said fake ashes in particular, I am sending herewith, for your kind perusal, the two copies of letters stated thereto, though, your keeping silent over the telecommunication and the letters that followed, is regretted very much.

News items date line New Delhi 23 AUGUST and 24 AUGUST spelling out respectively that "Notice" has been served with to Shri I. K. Gujral, External Affairs Minister, GOI not to bring the said "Fake Ashes" of Netaji from Japan to India, and Shri Chitta Bose, M.P. met you with two other MPs to take "necessary" action apropos of fake ashes of Netaji. The former news item has been spelt out by PTI and the latter by the Staff Reporter. And there are other News Items too in this respect. But, surprisingly enough, you, the External Minister and the President of India are keeping dead silent; and what for? May I humbly and beseechingly put this "Question" before you and to them! An honest and sincere most integrated purpose of the "Incumbents" is to be responsive to the correspondence of a inmost common man, when he has had the case in point to raise and is awaiting reply proper from the Prime Minister, India and other concerned.

Here in our State of West Bengal, Chief Minister, Shri Joyti Basu is keeping silent to our correspondances pertaining to freedom fighters pension to be provided with. And, the mass medias are full of informations about his "meeting" you at Dinner Table in view of much important matter of things like "reservation Quotas" for Scheduled Cast and Tribes, for "unrest in Panjab" and for "the price hike" which is increasingly getting beyond the reach of the Common Man, among other essential things, happenings and persons. And, here too may I as a veteran freedom fighter who had suffered for the Cause of Common Men and took part in almost in all the Democratic Movements since Independance and, now old and infirm - what prevents him in sanctioning the Political Sufferers Pension from the State of West Bengal. Relevant letter dated; 6 AUGUST 1990 I have had the cause obvious to write to say to him (the Chief Minister, West Bengal) is being sent herewith obviously on the said "meetings" and the crucial problems that has been arisen from the questions I have put before you, before the former Prime Minister, Shri Rajib Gandhi, before late Shrimati Indira Nehru Gandhi,

Contn.....2/

Contd....Indira Nehru Gandhi....

28 AUGUST 1990.

Prime Minister, India and her predecessor late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, late Lal Bahadur Shastri and Shri G.L. Nanda, (PM for a shortwhile). You and said Chief Minister, West Bengal Joyti Basu may keep silent over such crucial and imparative questions on political expediency, but kept in records these things will come out in future as the distillation from Truth Consciousness. In recent years which are becoming revealingly conspicuous in the USSR and ealse where.

I am physically handicapped cause due paralysis in the lower limbs since 1953 and I was a patient of late Dr.B.C. Roy, M.D., Chief Minister, West Bengal a friend of my late father Dr.T.P. Sanyal. I was offered by the Authorities of the Soviet Union to come to the USSR - twice, but did ^{not} take the opportunity then, as it was "blamed" that my purpose of going to Soviet Union was "essentially" an act of "contacting" persons concerning the very presence of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose there in the USSR and, possibly, at Ullan Battur - the Capital of Otter Mongolia. But, it should be kept in mind that I was not provided with the "financial assistance" I have had the cause to seek from GOI aswell from the State of West Bengal through late Prime Minister Jawharlal and Dr. B.C. Roy respectively. It is in record and the relevant copies of letters of theirs are with me and was sent to the Present PM & CM, and, if it needed be it may also be sent to you. My letter's copy addressed to former Chairman, Railway Board, dated AUGUST 8, 1990 will speak about it and I am sending this copy with a note that till date, not the Wheel Chairs at NJP Rly Station has been provide with, but a complimentary Card Pass for Travelling in Ralywas for Freedom Fighters has been granted, when, of course, it should also be noted here that instead of yearly Renewal of the said Pass it should be granted for Life time. It has been ~~xxx~~ yet ^{to be} compliance with. And, the copy of my letter dated: 20 JULY 1990 is relevant, thus it is being sent to you to take the action proper - a physically handicapped persons, not only, the freedom fighters, but all and sundry would be ben~~efit~~ed accordingly by your ~~action~~ necessary action in this respect.

And, would be too much, if, for instance, we the veteran freedom fighters write here to say to you that in accordance with the Memorandum thus submitted to Shri R. Venkataraman, President and to Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma, Vice-President, India on AUGUST 11, 1990 and which has been spelt out to you in my letter dated: 28 JULY 1990 to you re: enhanced pension of RS.1000/- pm instead of Rs.750/- pm be provide with ? When there is genuine grievances are mounting upon day by day.

Reply awaited and, in the meantime, with kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

 S. Sanyal.
 S. SANYAL. 28/8/90.

Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh,
 Prime Minister, India,
 South Block, NEW DELHI - 110011.

Enclo. As stated. cc to:

499

In reference with above stated letter dated, Jalpaiguri, the 20th JULY 1990 with its enclosures pertaining to "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose may I remind you almost daily - how pained you in sending few line in reply to it ? Your keeping silent over it is as much unfortunate as that of the present Prime Minister of India Shri Vishawnath Pratap Singh alongside his colleague Shri Indra Kumer Guzral External Affairs Minister of India.

You as the President of Indian Union will voice in AIR to night and as a freedom fighter himself would you speak about the freedom fighters "anything" that would be a redress of the "plight" they (the freedom fighters) are subjected to cause due to Spiral Rising of Daily Necessities of Life, but for the helpfull and adorable attitude of the Government and of which you are in the highest Office. Should they be subjected to humiliation and are being served with casual, callous and perfunctory replies in the context of their correspondances with the Government ? When, it may kindly be noted that here in our State of West Bengal save and except the said freedom fighters "All" are being provided with reasonable pensions and in recent time the "enhancement" of pension to MLAs and MLCs are under "active consideration" and when there at the Centre the MPs and all others are "enjoing" a good sum of Money !

And as regard the "fake ashes" of Netaji Subhas Bose - who has never died at Taiku Air Field Plane Crash in Taipia, the enclosed copy of letter dated: 28 JULY 1990 I have had the obvious reasons to say to write to Shri Vishawnath Pratap Singh, Prime Minister, India you may kindly introspect your "Quest" about true truth and the very visit of yours - Ullan Battur, the capital of Outter Mongollia apropos of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose; and the rest I have had to spell out. May I also put before you the very "Question" regarding the sum of Rs. 118/- Crore of INA the GOI has kept and the "interest" that has been accrued till now ?

Contn.....2/

14 AUGUST 1990.

Contd....ascured till now ?.....

And with a fervant request not to belittle the genuine freedom fighters and their correspondances addressing you - the President of India and to the Council of Ministers, obviously to know about - the true truth. Rather, their inquest for truth and the urge for decent livelihood for eaking out and to face the decadance, the rampant corruption and the very rising of daily necessities of life, inmost squarely and beautifully at this ~~lag~~ stage of life's end. Most of them are already dead and many of us are on the verge of it. So, as a freedom fighter it would be expected of you the Reply proper at your earliest and, in the meantime, let us wish with "head and heart" that India and particular the truckted Bengal and Punjab and the rest which are in acutely in Cricis succeeded after Cricis in the midst of International, be over.

With all the good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/--

S. SANYAL.

Shri R. Venkataraman,
President of India,
Rastrapati Bhavan,
NEW DELHI - 110 004.

Regd. Letter.Enclo. As stated.

cc to: Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma,
Vice-President, India;

✓ Shri Vishawnath Pratap Singh,
Prime Minister, India,

Shri Indra Kumar Guzral,
External Affairs Minister, India among others....&....

As stated in the letter dated: 28 AUGUST 1990
this copy only is being sent to Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh, Prime
Minister, India, South Block, New Delhi - 110011.

S. Sanyal
S. SANYAL.

28. 8. 1990.

492

Shri I.K. Guzral,

External Affairs

Minister, India, New Delhi-11.

Dated, Jalpaiguri, the 24th August, 1990.

Dear Shri Guzral,

re: Letter dated: 9 JUNE, 1990 and earlier - the Reply of which are absent conspicuously, and copies of letters dated: 14 AUGUST, dated: 28 JULY, dated: 20 July and dated: 24 AUGUST 1990 addressed to Shri R. Venkataraman, President, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Prime Minister, ~~(dated 20th July)~~ Shri R. Venkataraman, President and Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma, Vice-President; Chairman, Rajya Sabha respectively in the context of TELEGRAMS dated, the 11th MAY, 1990 addressed to You and to Prime Minister, India followed by letters.

You are keeping silent over the above stated letter dated: 9 JUNE 1990 till date in the context of my telegram dated, Jalpaiguri, the 11th MAY, 1990 followed by letters apropos your "sudden" pronouncement in the floor of Lok Sabha re: bringing to India, the "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, kept at Taikoo. This pronouncement of your regarding the "Fake Ashes" of Netaji is the THIRD ATTEMPTS which should have to be 'nipped in the bud' by the late Shrimate Indira Nehru Gandhi, Prime Minister, India and her successor the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajib Gandhi, because, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has never died at Taikoo Air Field "Plane Crash" in Taipei in the year 1945.

Both you and the Prime Minister, India, Shri V.P. Singh are "making" statements without least 'intention' it seems, to "favour" me with your replies my above stated Telegrams of MAY 11 followed by letters are looking forward with interest.

You are a freedom fighter and previously your prompt reply to my letters as the then I & B Minister, India is a case in point of your amiable nature. And as the Ambassador of India in the USSR your prompt action in the context of letter and cable I have had the cause to write to say about Economic collaboration in the affairs of Phyto-Chemical Industry here in West Bengal in and around the Tea Gardens of Duars and Terai has shown your responsiveness. And in recent time the dynamic action in the International Crisis your 'visiting' the USSR, the USA, the West Asian Countries are upto the mark of a Minister for External Affairs, India to his best to resolve the Crisis. But, what about the said Telegrams dated: 11 MAY 1990 that followed with letters not to indulged in bringing here in India the "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhas Ch. Bose ? Not only your amiable nature but as a freedom fighter you must not be dead silent over my correspondances apropos of "Fake Ashes".

With all the good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
S. SANYAL.

R/G
Enclo. As stated. Excluded.
cc to:

Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh,
Prime Minister, India, New Delh -11 as stated in the letter
dated: 28 AUGUST 1990.

S. Sanyal
S. SANYAL.

28. 8. 1990

Shri Joyti Basu,
Chief Minister, West Bengal,
Writers Buildings, CALCUTTA-1.

6 AUGUST 1990.

Dear Shri Basu,

In continuation of my letter dated, Jalpaiguri, the 31st JULY, 1990 with its enclosures re: freedom fighters' pension (PSP) from the State of West Bengal and the very recommendation of Nani Bhattacharya, M.P., addressed to Shri Binoy Chowdhury, MIC L&LR, Panchayet..., Chairman, Cabinet Sub-Committee for P.S.P alongwith copy of letter dated, the 14th July, 1990 addressed to Nirmal Bose, MIC Food & Supply - who is away in China, I am looking forward with interest your reply coupled with action. Because, among other hardship and ailments, the recent heart attack - & the spiral rising of daily necessities of life, not only me - an old infirm political sufferer, but people are suffering immensely. And you should see to it.

My copy of letter dated, the 28th July, addressed to Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Prime Minister, India re: Fake Ashes of Netaji Subhas Bose kept at Renkoji Temple in Japan and which is again being attempted to bringing in India by a few interested may kindly be looked into. And, the very unhappy freedom fighters who are deprived of the tangible benefit of Social Security and are victim of 'natural' injustice due to apathetic behaviour patterns of "must not be so."

And herewith I would like to draw your kind attention to a feature - the columnist Shibdas Banerjee who accompanied you in your 'visit' in Vietnam the otherday, in the Anandabazar Patrika dated: 1 August, 1990 re: your successor? Said shibdas Banerjee's insight spelt out in the said feature are not speculative journalism-but a prophecy, perhaps, if the features of Barun Sen Gupta, Editor, the Bartaman are really to be reckoned with.

Our prestige is at stake and if you do not do the needful in the context of above stated recommendation of Nani Bhattacharya, M.P formerly Health and Irrigation Minister, Member of Cabinet Sub-Committee for Political Sufferers Pension from West Bengal and Secretary of the State Committee of the R.S.P.I, then it would be a matter of regret and as a result it would tell upon the very good name of Left Front so many time so many words advocated by you among others enduring and constant spirit behind it.

Will you keep silent as your colleague Dr. Ashim Das Gupta, Finance and Development Minister, West Bengal - a son of freedom fighter, and alike Ex-Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, GOI - a son of freedom fighter too who kept himself almost aloof from enhancing the cause of freedom fighters in providing them with tangible benefit from Central Revenue or any oblivious? and deny me and all other freedom fighters who might have had the crucial need of pension from the State of West Bengal on the face of oft-repeated appeals!! Or would you be kind enough in providing me with said political sufferers pension I have had the cause to refuse thus offer offered to me from your predecessor late Dr.B.C. Roy, Chief Minister, West Bengal?

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,
Sd. S. Sanyal.

cc to: Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh,
Prime Minister, India, South Block, New Delhi - 110011 as stated
in the letter dated: 28 AUGUST 1990 (on the face of 28 JULY 1990)

S. Sanyal.
S. Sanyal. 28.8.1990.



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भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
 Embassy of India,
 2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
 Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
 Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
 Phone: 03 (262) 2391
 Fax: 03 (234) 4866

FAX MESSAGEMOST IMMEDIATE

To: Foreign New Delhi
 Attention: Smt. P.R. Sharma, Director (JKM)
 Fax No.: 0019111 301 0700
 Message No: TOK/9/Oct/90
October 11, 1990
 Dated: _____
 From: S. Menon, Deputy Chief of Mission

No. of pages
 (including this page) 15

Repeated to: _____

M E S S A G E

Your telex A-230 of 9th October, 1990, seeking material on requests that we accept the return of the ashes of Netaji. Am enclosing with this fax copies of written requests that were received by the Embassy and the then EAM in 1982. Since then, the request has been repeated to us verbally on every available occasion, particularly at the annual ceremonies at the Renkoji Temple in August. Notes regarding our participation at these ceremonies in previous years are also enclosed.

and 1983

[but not in writing]

(S. Menon)

Deputy Chief of Mission

Copy by bag in confirmation to:

✓ Smt. P.R. Sharma, Director (JKM), MEA,
 New Delhi.

Cafw

VS

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2/15

TOK 9/10/90

To: His Excellency, Shri.P.V.Narashinha Rao
The Minister for External Affairs,
Government of India

From: Netaji, Subhas Chandra Bose Academy
Tokyo, Japan

Subject: The Repatriation of the Ashes of Late Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose to India, enshrined in
Renkoji (Buddhist Temple), Tokyo

Sir,

The Remains of the Late Subhas Chandra Bose is at present, as you know well, kept enshrined in Renkoji Temple, Nakano, Tokyo.

We shall be much obliged if you could repatriate the remains of the Late Subhas Chandra Bose to India at your convenience..

Since August 18th 1945, when Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose passed away owing to an air crash at Taipei Air Port, 37 years have passed and September 18th 1946 , the remains and the Ashes of Netaji was brought and enshrined in Renkoji, Nakano, Tokyo. Thereafter about 10 years after all those who were concerned with Netaji used to gather and offer prayers every year on the death anniversary day the August 18th

In May 1956, Netaji's fact finding team headed by Gen.Shah Nawaz Khan visited Tokyo and further more, Prime Minister of India, the Late Pandit J. Nehru also visited Renkoji in October 1957. Preceding to that more interest has been intensified by various circle of Japanese people and on 23rd January 1948, the Netaji's Birthday anniversary, our Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Accademy was organised headed by Mr. Keizo Shibusawa.

Since then this Academy used to observed Netaji's birhtday party on 23rd January and Death Anniversary on 18th August every year.

Thirty years have passed since the first president of the Academy and to Mrs. Emori who died 3 years ago and the present president Gen. Katakura all have the same intention of sending back the Ashes of Netaji to India. Especially this year in January 1982, when Gen. Iwaichi Fujiwara visited India he met and discussed this subject with your Excellency, submitting Aide Memoire, copy of which is enclosed herewith. This gave us the opportunity of writting this letter for which we appreciate your cooperation.

Now, the problem is that the member of the Academy who respected and honoured Netaji are getting old, moreover, the High Priest of Renkoji, who was a great admirer of Netaji, died and his son has taken over the Temple and needs

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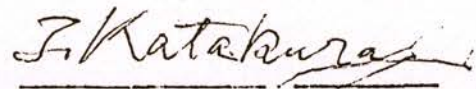
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Page 2.

a change over, so we feel the responsibility and for the sake of goodwill and friendship we request you the Ashes of Netaji should be returned to India at your earliest convenient time.

Hoping that this request should be drawing your due attention and reaction.

Yours respectfully,



TADASHI KATAKURA

President

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy

Tokyo.

10K/9/oct/90

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22/15

P E T I T I O N

To: The Hon. Shri P.V.Narashenha Rao
Minister for External Affairs
Government of India

From: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Academy
Tokyo, Japan

Subject: Petition for the Return of the Ashes of Late Netaji
Subhas Chandra Bose to India.

Sir,

Herewith our petition regarding the return of the Ashes of Late Subhas Chandra Bose which is at present enshrined in Renkoji Temple, Nakano, Tokyo.

We shall be much obliged if you could grant us the permission to send back the Ashes of Late Subhas Chabdra Bose to India at your earliest convenience.

August 18th, 1945 when Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose died in an air crash at Taipei air port, 37 years have passed since then, on September 18th, 1946 the remains and the Ashes of Netaji was brought and enshrined in Renkoji Temple, Nakano, Tokyo. Then about 10 years after all those who were concerned with Netaji gathered and offered prayers on the death anniversary day the 18th August.

May, 1956 Netaji's death investigating team headed by Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan arrived in Tokyo and again Prime Minister of India Late Pandit Nehru visited Renkoji Temple on October 1957. Since then high interest were taken by various people and on January 23rd, 1948 Netaji's Birthday Anniversary Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose-Academy was established headed by Mr. Keizo Shibusawa.

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Since then this Academy observed Netaji's birthday party on 23rd January and Death Anniversary on 18th August every year.

Thirty years have passed since the first president of the Academy and to Mrs. Emori who died 3 years ago and the present president Gen. Katakura all have the same intention of returning back the Ashes of Netaji to India. Especially, this year in January 1982 when Gen Iwaichi Fujiwara visited India he met and discussed with your Excellency, and has submitted Aide Memo, a copy enclosed herewith. This gave us the opportunity of writing this letter, for which we appreciate your cooperation.

Now, the problem is that the members of the Academy who respected and honoured Netaji are getting old, moreover, the High Priest of Renkojim who was a great admirer of Netaji, died and his son have taken over the Temple and needs a change over, so we request responsibility and for the sake of goodwill and friendship we request the Ashes of Netaji should be returned to India at the earliest possible moment.

Hoping that this request should be graned,

Yours respectfully

T. KATAKURA

Tadashi Katakura

President

Netaji Subhas Chandra
Bose Academy

tok 9/04/90

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NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE ACADEMY

TOKYO, JAPAN.

(8)

M. HAYASHI
3000, NOBORITO, TAMA-KU,
KAWASAKI-SHI, JAPAN.

MAY. 3. 1982

Embassey of India
2-11, Kudan Minami
2 -Chome, Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo

His Excellency, Mr. K. P. S. Menon
Ambassador Extraordinary Plenipotentiary
of India.

Your Excellency,

Enclosed herewith copies of letter and a petition submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao of India through Foreign Ministry of Japan regarding the Ashes and remains of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Renkoji Temple, Tokyo.

We request your Excellency to support and recommend this petition.

Thanking you in anticipation.

We remain, sir
Yours sincerely,

T. Katakura

Tadashi Katakura
President,

Netaji S. C. Bose Academy
Tokyo.

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FUJIWARA ASIA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

GITOMI K.K. 3-6-2, Higashi Nihonbashi,
Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103, Japan.
Tel: (03) 662 2661-3

TOKYO, July 31, 1982
REF.

H.E. President Giani Zail Singh,
Presidential Residence
Delhi, INDIA

My Most Respectful President Zail Singh,

I have the honour to express my heartfelt congratulation on Your Excellency's new assignment to the office of presidency of Great India accompanied by my humble prayer for successful fulfillment of the great office in good health and spirit throughout the term of service.

I recall with profound gratitude of Your Excellency's warm welcome given my wife and me in Feb. '79 during our visits to Chandigarh as its State guests, also of January this year when Your Excellency were good enough to spare your valuable time for me in Delhi and listen to my petition concerning the proposed erection of Indo-Japan joint memorial tower in Imphal in honour of the brave fallen soldiers.

This matter was also brought out by our Foreign Minister Sakuraguchi to your Minister of External Affairs H.E. Shri P. V. Rao during his official visit to this country a few weeks back to which the Minister graciously promised to give it a serious consideration. It was televised nationwide justly filling from the very nature of things the hearts of our people with deep emotion.

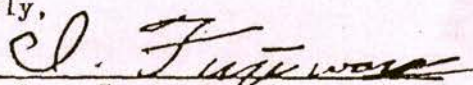
It is my firm conviction that the matter above-mentioned together with a desirable home-coming of Netaji's remains to his beloved soil not only would prove to be the source of a permanent amity and cooperations between our two nations but also of the prayer for peace in Asia.

Such being the case, I humbly beseech Your Excellency to use your good offices towards realization of the above 2 proposals particularly as these are wishes of our government and the people. Incidentally, Prime Minister Gandhi is expected here very soon. I am sure the summit conference with our leader will result in cementing the friendly relations furthermore.

In conclusion, I beg Your Excellency to accept my sincere wishes for prosperity of India and for your good health.

I remain Your Excellency's

Sincerely,


Lt-Gen. Iwaichi Fujiwara, Rtd.

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FUJIWARA ASIA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

FUJITOMI K.K. 3-6-2, Higashi Nishinbashi,
Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103, Japan.
Tel: (03) 662 2661-3

TOKYO, July 31, 1982
REF.

H.E. Shri P. Narashimha Rao
The Minister of External Affairs
Delhi, India.

Dear Excellency The Minister Rao,

I felt it a great honour to receive your kind letter and I can't thank you enough for your kind thought towards me.

During your visit to this country a few weeks ago, I earnestly hoped to pay my respect to you personally but your hard schedule regrettably denied me of the chance and the honour to be in your presence.

However, I was very pleased to see you in the Foreign Ministers' conference televised nationwide and to learn that the meeting proved to be very friendly and successful one. I also learnt that our Foreign Minister Sakuruchi beseeched your kind cooperation in connection with the proposed erection of Indo-Japan joint memorial tower in Imphal for brave fallen soldiers to which you graciously promised to give it a serious consideration.

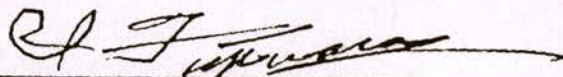
I firmly believe that the matter mentioned above coupled with the matter of Netaji's remains will eventually prove to be the source of permanent amity and cooperations between our two countries.

Such being the case, I humbly beg of you to use your good offices for realization of the above 2 proposals particularly as these are the wishes of our government and the people.

Lastly, you will please accept my sincere wishes and prayer for your good health.

I remain, Your Excellency's

sincerely,



Lt-Gen. Iwaichi Fujiwara, Rtd.
Chairman
F.A.R.I.

JOYCHANDRA SINGH

TOK/9/Oct/90

509/15

Phone No { 20147 (O)
20471 (R)
21538 (O)
21494 (O)

PRAJATANTRA IMPHAL,
MANIPUR, INDIA.

Imphal 2 Nov 1987

Dear Shri Shyam Saran,

Would you kindly recall our discussion about the remains of Netaji on 13 Oct 1987 at your Office.

I have been trying to help the Government of India to solve the problem of Netaji's remains as per letter No I665-EAM/84 dated 21 June, 1987 of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, then the Minister for External Affairs of India (Photo copy is enclosed herewith for easy reference). I have discussed this matter with Shrimati Indira Gandhi when she was alive. I have been one of her advisors in her emergency cases.

I met Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, President of All India freedom fighters Organisation who and his organisation is requesting to the Government of India for bringing back of Netaji's remains to India.

I also met Dr Sisir Bose, nephew of Netaji at Calcutta and my house at Imphal several times. I have also met Col Dillon, Col Sagal etc. Dr Sisir Bose has agreed to me to bring the remains of Netaji to India, but Mr Samar Guha and some other forward Block leaders are reported to have objected in bringing the remains of Netaji to India stating that " Netaji did not die at Taiphei Plane crash and he is still alive " However there is no documentary evidence.

Meanwhile, I have received a letter from some very responsible Japanese friends who are guarding the remains of Netaji at Renkoji Temple in Tokyo for the last 42 years saying that they want to send it back to India.

P.T.O.

JOYCHANDRA SINGH

Tok 9/10/90

Phone No

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20471 (R)
21538 (O)
21494 (O)

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PRAJATANTRA IMPHAL,
MANIPUR, INDIA.

(2)

I have discussed this matter with Dr Sisir Bose at Calcutta, he has agreed that if Japanese are unable to keep the remains of Netaji in Renkoji Temple, it is better to keep it in a room of Indian Embassy till the controversy is over. Those Japanese leaders who expressed their desire to settle the problem refused to write letters to the Govt. of India and Embassy of India in Tokyo saying that " it is very delicate matter " but expressed their strong desire to remove it from Renkoji Temple. The reason behind it as explained to me is that Lt. General T. Katakura who is looking after the remains is 90 years old. He is only living General of II World War and after him, ~~there~~ they said there is nobody to look after the remains of Netaji. I met Mr T. Nakai who is very old expressed the same view. They told me repeatedly to take up this matter with the Govt. of India and Indian Embassy in Tokyo. This is the reason why I am writing this letter to you.

I shall be very grateful, if you kindly communicate about your observation in this matter.

After hearing from you, I want to take up this matter with Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi who is kind enough to respond many important matters to me.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

(L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH)

Shri Shyam Saran
Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission
Embassy of India
2-II, 2-CHOME,
KHUDAN-MINAMI
CHIYODA-KU,
Tokyo
JAPAN

L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH

TOK/9/0ct/90

Phone No { 20147 (o)
20471 (R)
21538 (o)
21494 (o)

PRAJATANTRA IMPHAL,
MANIPUR, INDIA,

Imphal 9 December 1987.

To

MR. Tadashi Nakai,
5-5-3 Kooji - machi,
Chiyoda - Ku,
Tokyo,
Japan.

Dear Mr. Tadashi Nakai,

Thank you very much for your letter 1st December 1987.

I am very happy to know that a Japanese Group is planning to visit Manipur for memorial services. You may kindly consider that the group be a small group numbering below 10 members. I will give all possible assistance to your group when they arrive in Manipur.

I think Indian Embassy in Tokyo may consider for issue of Inner line permit. The best season is between October to March every year.

I have noted the contents of your letter expressing the desire for return of the remains of Netaji Subas Chandra Bose to India.

I am trying my level best and have taken up the matter with the Govt. of India.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

(L. JOYCHANDRA SINGH)

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12/15

S. A. CHANDRU

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE ACADEMY
TOKYO, JAPAN.

W. K. Roy
LT. INA
(BIREN ROY)

M. HAYASHI
3000, NOGORITO, TAMA-KU,
KAWASAKI-SHI, JAPAN.

Dated April

1983.

RE : AN APPEAL TO FORMER OFFICERS AND THE PEOPLE CONCERNED
WITH INA REGARDS THE ASHES AND REMAINS OF LATE NETAJI
SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

Let us not deny Martyrdom to the greatest man of India
G. S. Dhillon

It has passed 38 years since Late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose died in an air crash at Taiwan Air Fort in 18th, day of August 1945.

We who knew Netaji have been observing his birthday January 23rd and his death anniversary August 18th, every year and it is that we feel very sad and sorry to say that the ashes and remains of this Great Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose who was a supreme commander of INA and a leader of Provisional Government of Free India is still in Rekoji Temple at Tokyo has not been returned to his Motherland up to now.

We have contacted our Foreign Dept many a times and the answers were that the Indian Government has not yet recognized his death and that they cannot do anything but wait, and even the Indian Ambassy in Japan gave the same answers.

However, that you must understand that longer we keep waiting, the people who knows and respect Netaji gets lesser and lesser and at the end there will be nobody to pay respect his remains which we feel very sorry.

Therefore, we appeal to our and his comrades the former officers and people concerned with INA to get the Netaji's Ashes and Remains back to India and may his ashes rest in peace in River Ganga.

Yours sincerely,

I whole hearted endorse this appeal.
TADASHI KATAKURA

Tadashi Katakura
President.

Shah Nawaz Khan
Rajni Bedeul
INA

Masao Hayashi
Masao Hayashi
Secretary.

8/5/8

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FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

2 only

TO : INDEMBASSY TOKYO

AMBASSADOR FROM DIRECTOR(EA)

FAXED BELOW IS TEXT OF LETTER ADDRESSED TO
PM BY COL. P.K. SAHGAL, CHAIRMAN, NETAJI RESEARCH
BUREAU, CALCUTTA(.)

2. YOU ARE WELL AWARE OF OUR STAND ON THIS
SUBJECT(.) GOVERNMENT HAVE RECEIVED FROM TIME TO TIME
VARIOUS PROPOSALS CONCERNING THIS QUESTION(.) THERE
IS AS YET NO CONSENSUS AMONG THE DIFFERING VIEWS HELD
AT PRESENT ON THE SUBJECT(.) GOVERNMENT ARE OF THE
VIEW THAT A CONSENSUS MUST BE DEVELOPED ON THIS
SUBJECT IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE ASHES TO BE BROUGHT
BACK TO INDIA(.) EMBASSY MAY WISH TO REITERATE THIS
POSITION(.)

3. WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO TALK WITH YOU
TELEPHONICALLY SINCE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON IN THIS
REGARD BUT HAVE FAILED TO DO SO(.) HENCE THIS
TELEFAX(.) RGDS(.)

Nirupama Rao

(Nirupama Rao)
Director(EA)
17/8/1990

1/2

Tok/9/oct/90

12/15

COL P. K. SAHGAL
Chairman, Netaji Research
Bureau,
CA' CUTTA

11, CIVIL LINES,
KANPUR-200 001
Telephone : 212721
9th July, 1990

Dear Mr Prime Minister,

On behalf of the I.N.A Jawans and officers, I would like to convey our heartfelt gratitude to you for the kind assurance given by you to the Freedom Fighter delegation lead by Shri Sheel Bhadar Yajee, which met you on the 3rd July to the effect that Netaji's ashes would be brought to India with full honours.

In this connection I would like to bring to your kind notice that Subas Bose Academy, Tokyo have invited Shri Sheel Bhadar Yajee, Dr Sisir Bose, Dr Col Lakshmi Sahgal, I and some others to be present at a ceremony to be held at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo on the 18th August to pay our homage to Netaji's Ashes. In this invitation they have pointedly mentioned that 'This would be our last ceremony'. This clearly indicates that the Ashes could NO longer be kept in their present Resting Place.

It would take sometime for the government of India to make proper arrangements to bring the Ashes to India with due due honour, therefore interim arrangements have to be made to keep them in Tokyo. Mr Sheel Bhadar Yajee, Dr Sisir Bose and other friends whom I have consulted concur with my view that Netaji's Ashes should be kept with due honour in the Indian Embassy in Tokyo till such time that they can be brought to India.

I sincerely hope that you will please accede to our request in this regard and issue necessary instructions to the Indian Ambassador in Tokyo.

On the 18th of August we would like to carry these ashes ceremonously to Indian Embassy.

All my friends and I would be most grateful if immediate action is taken in the matter.

With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely,

P. K. Sahgal

With pre. ops pl.

Yashwantrao
26/7/90

2/2

tok 9/04/90

(507)

15/15

(MS)

Embassy of India
Tokyo.

As desired by the Ambassador, I attended the memorial service held at the Renkoji Temple for Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes on August 18 '90.

2. This was a special occasion for two reasons. Firstly, they unveiled a bust of Netaji in the temple premises. This bust is about 3 ft high mounted on a 5 ft pedestal. It is permanently placed near the entrance to the temple.

3. The second reason was that this was the 45th anniversary of the death of Netaji and as such assumed some importance.

4. There were a large number of Japanese guests present including many old timers who had been associated with Netaji during his stay in Japan. These included the President of the Academy General Katakura (94), General Asuno (95), Mr Okuda, Mr Hayashi who is the Secretary of the Academy and Mr Shimoda of the Kokusai Foto Company etc.

5. A number of Indian guests were also present. They were Mr. Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Dr Sisir Bose, Col PK Sahgal, Mrs Lakshmi Sahgal, one Capt Dasam, Capt Yadav and Mrs Janaki (of the Rani Jhansi Brigade). Mrs Janaki has been a Member of Parliament and Minister in Malaysia.

6. The person behind this celebrations is one Mrs Matsushima, whose mother was very closely associated with Netaji while he was in Japan. Mrs. Matsushima and one or two others, fund these annual commemorative occasions and also met all expenses related to the bust as well as the presence of the Indian visitors this time.

7. A number of speeches were given on the occasion by both Japanese and Indians and in their private talks the elderly Japanese reiterated to me the need to return the ashes to India as there would be no one left to look after these in a few years. There was no indication that this was the last such commemorative ceremony. There was no pressure either from the Indians present to take the ashes back. They obviously understood the correct position. Mr Yajee did, however, emphasise to me the need for the Embassy to take up strongly the matter of the return of the ashes so that it would form part of the decision making process in India.

8. A Newspaper man from Hong Kong, Harvey Stockwin, was also present.

R. Mathur

(R. Mathur)
Counsellor (Cons)

20.8.90

(33) (508)
L-5511/10/90
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(LEGAL & TREATIES DIVISION)

Please refer to your Note. No. C/551/13/81-JP regarding the notice received from Shri Ganga Lahari Pareek, Advocate for the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation, Jaipur.

2. 8 The High Court of Rajasthan in its judgment of 18th January, 1986 in civil writ petition No. 902/1984 had directed MEA to hear the petitioner (Nand Lal Sharma) in person and examine the documents and evidence that he could produce in support of his contention. On the basis of the materials produced by Shri Nand Lal Sharma, the Government of India was to decide whether a fresh enquiry into the question of Netaji's death was required.

3. However, since no evidence or documents of any kind were ever produced by Shri Nand Lal Sharma, the occasion to consider whether or not a fresh enquiry was required did not arise. Even after the death of Shri Nand Lal Sharma no one had come forward to present any evidence, etc. on his behalf.

4. Shri Ganga Lahari Pareek or the Foundation on whose behalf he has now sent a notice to the Ministry was not a party to the earlier petition in which the High Court of Rajasthan had given the order in question and is not entitled as such to make any plea or request based on the judgment. However, it may be presumed that in case we do not reply to the notice he would approach the court and by citing the earlier judgment may obtain a similar order in his favour.

5. It is, therefore, suggested that we may invite Shri Ganga Lahari Pareek and the foundation that he represents to produce the evidence and the documents on the basis of which they claim that the conclusions of the earlier enquiry reports regarding Netaji's death are erroneous and justifying the need for a fresh enquiry.

6. When such evidence/materials are received, they may be examined in consultation with other concerned Ministries/Departments particularly with a view to ascertain whether they disclose any facts, etc which had not been considered during the earlier enquiries and which, had they been considered, could have influenced their conclusions.

Narinder Singh
(Narinder Singh)
Legal Officer(II)
15-10-1990

Smt. Primrose R. Sharma
Director (EA-II)

(509)

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

...

Background

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is reported to have died in Taipei, Taiwan, on 18th August, 1945. His body was cremated two days later and the ashes carried to Japan. It appears that the ashes were initially kept at the residence of Shri A.M. Sahani (ex-Minister of Netaji's Cabinet) in Tokyo, and subsequently taken to the Renkoji Buddhist temple in Nakano, Tokyo, where they have been maintained to this day.

Commissions of Enquiry

2. Two commissions of enquiry were appointed by the Government of India on the question of Netaji's death in the air crash on 18/8/45. The first enquiry committee set up in 1956 was headed by the late Shah Nawaz Khan and included Netaji's elder brother Shri S.C. Bose. The majority opinion was that Netaji met his death in the air crash and that the ashes at the Renkoji temple were that of Netaji. Netaji's brother Shri S.C. Bose gave a dissenting view.

3. In 1970 a one man Committee of Justice G.D. Khosla also concluded that the casket lodged in the Renkoji temple contained the ashes of Netaji.

Moves to Bring Ashes to India

4. 45 years have passed since then. During the intervening period there have been moves to have these ashes brought back to India with all due reverence and honour as befitting a man of the stature of Subhash Chandra Bose.

5. Proponents of this line of action include organisations like the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation led by ex-MP Shri Sheel Bhadra Yaji as well individuals such as Shri L. Joychandra Singh of Manipur.

6. The most recent voices added to this group for the return of Netaji's ashes and who accept the ashes as being genuine are two members of the INA and colleagues of Netaji Col. P.K. Sehgal who is Chairman of the Netaji Research Bureau in Calcutta and his wife Col. Laxmi Sehgal.

7. In addition there are also some family members of Netaji who reportedly accept these views and moves.

8. On the other hand there are many who still doubt and question the veracity of the ashes. In January 1982 Shri S.C. Bose had written to the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi saying that there was no proof of the so-called ashes being genuine.

(5/0) (5/0)

Opponents to
Moves to
Bring the
Ashes back

9. Prof. Samar Guha is another person who holds the view that Netaji did not die in an air crash at Taipei in 1945. He believes Netaji was smuggled out of Taiwan to the USSR. He has been in correspondence with the Prime Minister urging that we must find out what happened to Subhash Chandra Bose and that an Enquiry Committee should be constituted to look into the matter.

10. An Organisation - the Akhil Bhartiya Azad Hind Sangh led by Sh. D.K. Jain also subscribes to the theory that the aircrash was fabricated and is opposed to the return of the ashes.

Court Case
on Netaji's
Death

11. In 1984 a writ petition was filed in the Rajasthan High Court - Petition No. 902/84 filed by Shri Nand Lal Sharma who claimed to be an associate of Netaji. The petitioner submitted that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was still alive and petitioned the Rajasthan High Court to open a judicial enquiry at the international level on the whereabouts of Netaji. Subsequently, Justice S.N. Bhargava of the Rajasthan High Court in his judgement of 18th January 1986 ordered inter alia that the Government of India "look into the matter dispassionately and hear the petitioner in person patiently and examine the documents and the evidence that he wants to produce in support of his contention, and then come to a definite conclusion". The Court further directed that "six months time will be sufficient for the Union of India to examine the whole matter afresh with open mind and if necessary, invite public in general to produce material whatever it want in this connection before coming to a prima facie decision as to whether fresh Commission is necessary or not. Petitioner should submit all his papers, evidence and other material before Government of India and time of six months will start from the date the material is filed by the petitioner."

Flag 'B'

12. Subsequently, it was brought to the notice of this Ministry that the petitioner had died. Coordination Division had, therefore, informed Shri Talekar Counsel of the late petitioner that as the petitioner had passed away before the meeting with the MEA/Government of India representative could take place, no further action was called for on the part of the Government of India.

13. We have since received a notice from Advocate Shri Ganga Lahari Pareek(F/A) addressed to EAM referring to the High Court order and restraining GOI from bringing the ashes to India. An identical notice has been sent to the Japanese Embassy.

Opinion of
L&T Division

14. Legal and Treaties Division has opined that as no (Flag 'C') evidence or documents were produced by Shri Nand Lal Sharma, the occasion to consider whether or not a fresh enquiry was required did not arise. The Lawyer and the Foundation on whose behalf he has sent a notice was not a party to the earlier petition in which the High Court of Rajasthan had given the

order in question and is not entitled 'as such to make any plea or request based on the judgment. L&T Division, however, is of the view that in case the Ministry does not reply to the notice, the Lawyer would approach the Court and by citing the earlier judgement may obtain a similar order in his favour. It has, therefore, been suggested by the L&T Division that we may invite Shri Gangal Lahari Pareek and the Foundation to produce the evidence and the documents on the basis of which they claim that the conclusions of the earlier enquiry reports regarding Netaji's death are erroneous and justify the need for a fresh enquiry.

15. It also advises that on this basis "the evidence and materials may be examined in consultation with the other concerned Ministries/Departments particularly with a view to ascertain whether they disclose any facts, etc., which had not been considered during the earlier enquiries and which, had they been considered, could have influenced their conclusions."

Position in
Japan

16. Meanwhile in Japan where the ashes are lodged there have been repeated requests from the Renkoji Temple as well as Japanese associates of Netaji particularly the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy in Japan for the ashes to be returned to its original home in India. The Late Ven. Mochizuki of the Renkoji Temple, in whose care the ashes were first entrusted died in 1980 and there is a feeling that his son who has now taken over the charge of the temple does not hold the same reverence for the ashes.

of India in
Tokyo

17. The other group of people who were associated with Netaji including members of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy in Tokyo, are now growing old and fear that once they pass away there would be nobody to look after these ashes. For example Gen. Fujiwara is one of such persons who is now 95 years old. These aged Japanese associates have whenever they have had the chance requested the Embassy to take back the ashes to India. They have also been urging the Government of Japan to persuade our Government to accept the ashes.

Japanese
Govt.
view

18. In turn the question of the ashes has been raised from time to time, by the Japanese Embassy in Delhi. The Embassy has, however, made it clear that their Government itself has no strong views in the matter and will go along with whatever the Government of India decides. The Japanese Government is, however, under increasing pressure from old associates of Netaji who have been urging the Foreign Ministry to take up the matter at the Government level. During Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu's visit to India in April-May this year, the matter was touched briefly by Foreign Secretary with Deputy Minister Owada.

Questions in
Parliament

19. From time to time, questions on the ashes of Netaji in Japan and Netaji's death in the air crash have been raised in Parliament, both in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. Briefly this Ministry's response has been that Government is aware of the

differing views and is of the opinion that a consensus must first be developed on the question.

19/10/1990

5470-JS/EA/90
29/10

Phone : 3323967

अखिल भारतीय स्वतंत्रता सेनानी संगठन
ALL INDIA FREEDOM FIGHTERS' ORGANISATION

7, JANTAR MANTAR ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

Ref. No. AIFFO/1878/1990...

Dated.....21...Oct.....1990.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDUM :

Prof. N.G. Ranga M.P. Andhra Pradesh
Com. Shiv Verma. U.P.
P.K. Khanna, Ex M.P., U.P.
Ch. Ranbir Singh, Ex M.P., Haryana
Manmath Nath Gupt. New Delhi
Com. Ram Kishan, Ex M.P., Punjab
Col. Mahboob Ahmad, INA, Bihar
Satish Chandra Saha, West Bengal
Capt. Ranjit Singh, INA, Punjab

WORKING PRESIDENT :

Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Ex. M.P., Bihar

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Shyam Narain Kashmiri, M. Pradesh
M. Koirang Singh, INA, Ex CM Manipur
B. K. Pani, Ex M.P., Orissa
Com. Channan Singh, Punjab
Ram Kishore Rastogi Ex. M.L.C. U.P.
Joganand Gujarat
Lt. Smt. Manvati Arya, INA, U.P.
Mungeri Lal, Ex Minister, Bihar

TREASURER :

Prof. Mahesh Dutt Mishra Ex MP. M P.

GENERAL SECRETARIES

Shashi Bhushan, Ex M.P. M. Pradesh
V.L. Sunder Rao. Andhra Pradesh
Capt. S.S. Yadav, INA, Haryana
Rajendrapal Singh Warrior, U.P.
Com. Girdhar Thakkar, Maharashtra
N. Alexander. Ex M.P., Kerala

SECRETARIES :

Jagat Ram Joshi, Delhi
Rambhau Nishal, Maharashtra
Purshotam Kakodkar, M.P., Goa
Dhiren Bhowmick. West Bengal
Lt Francis S. Dcruz, INA Kerala
Vishwa Nath Mathur, New Delhi
K.B. Chaudhari, Assam
S.K. Sinha, Bihar
Bansi Lal Lohadia, Ex M.P., Rajasthan
Com. J.S. Anand Ex. M.P. Punjab
Lt. S.V.V. Murugesan, INA, Tamilnadu
Sunderlal Jain, Maharashtra

Dear Shri I.K.Gujral,

Jai Hind. I am enclosing herewith

a copy of Resolutions adopted in the meeting held this day to comemorate the 47th anniversary of PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF AZAD HIND, established by Netaji Subhas Chndra Bose on 21 Oct.1943, in Singapore, for favour of necessary action.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Sheel Bhadra Yajee
(Sheel Bhadra Yajee)
Ex-M.P.

Working President.

A.I., Freedom Fighters Organisation
7, Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi-1.

Shri I.K.Gujral,
Minister of External Officers,
New Delhi.

Sgt/x

Div (JAM) 12/4
USCEA/10
CAW
uadu

अखिल भारतीय स्वतंत्रता सेनानी संगठन
ALL INDIA FREEDOM FIGHTERS' ORGANISATION
7, JANTAR MANTAR ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

Ref. No AIFFD.....

Dated... **21.Oct....1990.**

MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDUM :

Baba Prithvi Singh Azad, Punjab
 Prof. N.G. Ranga, M.P. Andhra Pradesh
 Com. Shiv Verma, U.P.
 P.K. Khanna, Ex M.P., U.P.
 Ch. Ranbir Singh, Ex M.P., Haryana
 Manmath Nath Gupta, New Delhi
 Com. Ram Kishan, Ex M.P., Punjab
 Col. Mahboob Ahmad, INA, Bihar
 Satish Chandra Saha, West Bengal
 Capt. Ranjit Singh, INA, Punjab

WORKING PRESIDENT :

Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Ex. M.P., Bihar

VICE-PRESIDENTS :

P. Thimma Reddy, Ex Minister A.P.
 Dr. T. Kannan, Tamilnadu
 Shyam Narain Kashmiri, M. Pradesh
 M. Koireng Singh, INA, Ex CM Manipur
 B. K. Pani, Ex M.P., Orissa
 Com. Channan Singh, Punjab
 Ram Kishan Rastogi, M.P.C., U.P.
 Mehar Chand Ahuja, Ex M.L.C., Haryana
 Jaganand, Gujarat
 Lt Smt. Manvati Arya, INA, U.P.
 Mungeri Lal, Ex Minister, Bihar
 Aurobindo Bose, Ex M.L.C., W. Bengal

TREASURER :

Prof. Mahesh Dutt Mishra Ex MP, M.Pr.

GENERAL SECRETARIES :

Shashi Bhushan, Ex M.P., M. Pradesh
 V.L. Sunder Rao, Andhra Pradesh
Capt. S.S. Yadav, INA, Haryana
 Rajendrapal Singh Warrior, U.P.
 Com. Girdhar Thakkar, Maharashtra
 N. Alexander, Ex M.P., Kerala

SECRETARIES :

Rambhau Nishal, Maharashtra
 Purshotam Kakodkar, M.P., Goa
 Dhiren Bhowmick, West Bengal
 Lt Francis S. Dcruz, INA, Kerala
 Vishwa Nath Mathur, New Delhi
 K.B. Chaudhari, Assam
 Jagat Ram Joshi, Delhi
 S.K. Sinha, Bihar
 Bansi Lal Lohadia, Ex M.P., Rajasthan
 Kunj Bihari Pathak, Madhya Pradesh
 Lt. S.V.V. Murugesan, INA, Tamilnadu
 Sunderlal Jain, Maharashtra

PLEDGE TO FULFIL THE UNFINISHED TASK OF NETAJI AND HIS 26,000(TWENTY SIX THOUSAND)I.N.A.MARTYRS.

RESOLUTION No.1.

This meeting on the occasion of the 47th anniversary of the foundation of the ARZI HAKUMAT AZAD HIND(PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF FREE INDIA)by NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE salute and pay respectful homage to MARTYR, THE GREAT NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE, twice the president of the Indian National Congress and Head of the Provisional Government of Free India and Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army and his 26,000 I.N.A. brave soldiers who laid down their precious lives in ~~1944~~ 1944 on the battle fronts of IMPHAL(Manipur) and KOHIMA (Nagaland) to liberate India from the clutches of British Imperialism and takes solemn vow to maintain the Unity and Integrity of INDIA by fighting and finishing the evil forces of Communalism, ~~Separatism~~ Separatism, Casteism, Regionlism and Lingaism which are raising their ugly heads in all parts of India specially in the Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern States of Assam, Nagaland and Manipur and decides to fulfil the unfinished task of NETAJI and all the martyrs of all the Freedom Struggles of INDIA from 1757 to 1947 by establishing Socialist Republic of India as enshrined in the Preamble of the Constitution of India on the initiative of late Prime Minister Shrimati INDIRA GANDHI.

RESOLUTION No.2.

This meeting expresses its full satisfaction on the assurance of bringing the SACRED ASHES of NETAJI from Tokyo(Japan) to New Delhi(India) by Prime Minister Shri VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH to our delegation led by Shri SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE, ex-M.P., President of All India Netaji Memorial Committee; Chairman of Freedom Fighters Cell of A.I.C.C.(I); and the Working President of All India Freedom Fighters' Organisation, waited on him on 2-7-90 and the other delegation led by Colonel P.K.SEHGAL, INA Colonel(Dr.) LAKSHMI SEHGAL, I.N.A., Commandant of Rani of Jhansi Regiment and Smt. SUBHASINI ALI, M.P. C.P.M.4 on 3 Sep. 1990.

This meeting demands of Prime Minister Shri VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH and the Minister of External Affairs Shri Inder Kumar Gujral to bring the SACRED ASHES OF NETAJI on or before 23rd January 1991 to New Delhi with full and solemn HONOURS to

(515)

Phone : 3323967

अखिल भारतीय स्वतंत्रता सेनानी संगठन
ALL INDIA FREEDOM FIGHTERS' ORGANISATION
 7, JANTAR MANTAR ROAD, NEW DELHI-110001

Ref. No. AIFFD.....

Dated. 21-6-1980

MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDIUM :

Baba Prithvi Singh Azad, Punjab
 Prof. N.G. Ranga, M.P. Andhra Pradesh
 Com. Shiv Verma, U.P.
 P.K. Khanna, Ex M.P., U.P.
 Ch. Ranbir Singh, Ex M.P., Haryana
 Manmath Nath Gupta, New Delhi
 Com. Ram Kishan, Ex M.P., Punjab
 Col. Mahboob Ahmad, INA, Bihar
 Satish Chandra Saha, West Bengal
 Capt. Ranjit Singh, INA, Punjab

WORKING PRESIDENT :

Sheel Bhadracharya, Ex. M.P., Bihar

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 Dr. T. Kannan, Tamilnadu
 Shyam Narain Kashmiri, M. Pradesh
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 B. K. Pani, Ex M.P., Orissa
 Com. Channan Singh, Punjab
 Ram Kishan Rastogi, M.P.C., U.P.
 Mehar Chand Ahuja, Ex M.L.C., Haryana
 Jaganand, Gujarat
 Lt Smt. Manvati Arya, INA, U.P.
 Mungeri Lal, Ex Minister, Bihar
 Aurobindo Bose, Ex M.L.C., W. Bengal

TREASURER :

Prof. Mahesh Dutt Mishra Ex MP, M.Pr.

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 Com. Giridhar Thakkar, Maharashtra
 N. Alexander, Ex M.P., Kerala

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 Vishwa Nath Mathur, New Delhi
 K.B. Chaudhari, Assam
 Jagat Ram Joshi, Delhi
 S.K. Sinha, Bihar
 Bansi Lal Lohadia, Ex M.P., Rajasthan
 Kunj Bihari Pathak, Madhya Pradesh
 Lt. S.V.V. Murugesan, INA, Tamilnadu
 Sunderlal Jain, Maharashtra

- 2 -

and erect a suitable MEMORIAL to perpetuate Netaji
 and his 26,000 I.N.A. MARTYRS.

Further the meeting urges upon the veteran
 Freedom Fighter Shri R.VENKATARAMAN, the President
 of India, who is going to JAPAN to fix the date
 of bringing the ashes of Netaji with the consultation
 of the Prime Minister of Japan.

Sheel Bhadracharya
 EX M.P.
 Working President

S. S. Yadav
 Gen. Secy.

V.L. Sunder Rao
 Gen - Secy.

(Sib)

SHYAM SARAN
JOINT SECRETARY (EA)

No. C/551/14/90-JP

October 22, 1990.

Dear Shri Bakshi,

This is in continuation of my letter
No. 5566/JS(EA)/90, dated October 9, 1990,
regarding ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. Enclosed please find a note on the subject
mentioned above.

With regards, Yours sincerely,

Encl: As above

(SHYAM SARAN)

Shri H.C. Bakshi,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
New Delhi.

1/c
Shri
Dit (JKM)



Shyam Saran
Joint Secretary (EA)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-11

No. 5566/JS(EA)/90

October 9, 1990

Dear Shri Bakshi

Please refer to your letter No. I/12014/6/90 JS(DIII) dated October 8, 1990 regarding ashes of Netaji Subhash Bose.

2. The material requested is being put together in consultation with our Mission in Tokyo and we hope to send you a comprehensive note shortly.

With regards

Yours sincerely

(Shyam Saran)

Shri H. C. Bakshi
Joint Secretary
Ministry of Home Affairs
New Delhi

o/c



संयुक्त सचिव
JOINT SECRETARY

5566 JS (SA)/90
W.I/12014/6/90
SECRET / IMMEDIATE
(D.M.)

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
DL: 5-10-90

(29)

Dear Shri Nambiar,

1-8 OCT 1990

Kindly find enclosed copy of a letter dated September 5, 1990 received by us from Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister regarding ashes of Netaji Subhash Bose.

2. As desired, we are preparing a Note for the CCPA on the basis of papers available in MHA. We shall be grateful if MEA could kindly furnish material/their comments for incorporation in the Note for the CCPA. After the note is finalised by us, it would be referred to MEA formally also before submission to CCPA.

Yours sincerely,

(H.C. Bakshi)

Shri V.K. Nambiar,
Joint Secretary (EA)
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.



11006/DS(1521/90) P. 1218/HS/90

519

322/PM/90-15 DI(10)
12/9
प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली 110011

N. K. Sinha,
Joint Secretary to PM

NEW DELHI 110011
5-1656/AS/11/90
79
5 September, 1990

No. 800/6/C/1/90-POL

Dear Shri Chandra,

There is a dispute regarding ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. One group wants to bring these ashes to India while another group is against bringing the ashes to India on the ground that the ashes are not of Netaji. There is also controversy about whether Netaji is dead or whether he is still alive.

2. Prime Minister desires that this matter be brought before the CCPA.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(N. K. Sinha)

Shri Naresh Chandra,
Home Secretary,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block.

URGENT

PM 15 (w R)
urgent. check whether any ppt are available in 15 divn
link. L
11/9
DI(A) / DI(1) may please see if they
DI(A) / DI(1)
12/9

Have we any ppt on this? In FF or CC side also? 7/9

AST(N)

all 800 ppt. if any, send it. 7/9

DS(1521) - in original
DS(1521)
DS(1521)

2 copies

DI(A) have no have any material
DI(A) / DI(1)

STATEMENT ON 19.10.46 BEFORE
(THE 'ALLIED INTELLIGENCE')

4. After 9 P.M. he was sinking into unconsciousness - he was in coma never regained consciousness and **died at 11 P.M.**
5. After 10 day's (i.e. on 28th) treatment Habibur Rahaman went to HOKUTO Army Hospital taking **Netaji's ashes** with him.
6. (Nothing remembered)

DEPOSITION FROM 21.5.56 TO 23.5.56
(BEFORE SHAH NAWAZ COMMITTEE)

"It was shortly after 8 P.M. that Mr. Bose breathed his last".
Tried to give artificial respiration.
(Never mentioned earlier).

Habib left Hospital on the **30th August** with **Netaji's body** and never came back. He does not know where he went. He does not remember how that Habib took the ashes.

In case of severe burns of 3rd degree, the blood gets thicker and there is high pressure of the heart. Blood needs to be let out. So the **Doctor himself** let out approximately 200 c.c. of blood and transfused **400 c.c.** of blood into him.

DEPOSITION ON 24.4.71
(BEFORE G.D. KHOSLA)

He was conscious for 7/8 hours, Mr. Bose **survived in the Hospital for 12 hours** and died in his presence. His statement before Shah Nawaz Khan Committee that Netaji died shortly after 8 P.M., he thinks **to be incorrect**.

Habib left with **Netaji's body** the day after his death. He never came back. The dead body was removed on the 19th morning (when confronted with his earlier statement he said that he was not sure which of his own statements was correct).

The Doctor gave blood transfusion. No. blood transfusion was given by a Surgeon from Army H.O. whose name he did not remember. He did not let out blood from Bose's body. Even in 3rd degree burns blood transfusion possible without letting out blood. Blood transfusion was not given by him. He admits that his statement before Shah Nawaz Khan Committee was wrong. He was **not present** when blood transfusion was given.

ANNEXURE - 'C'

SEAL

Com/5(B) 25-9-73

No.	Name of Disease	Date of Death Date of Permission Date of Cremation	Occupation	Sex	Permanent Domicile Present Address	Name of Deceased	Date of Birth	Applicant Address	Name
2640									
2641	Heart Attack	August 19, 1945 August 21, 1945 August 22, 1945	Non-Regular Staff member of Armed Forces	Male	No. 1, 2-Chome Dogenzaka, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, No. 2, 3-Chome Nogli-machi, Taipei City	ICHIRO OKURA	April 9, 1900.	Unit No. 21123	Taneyoshi Yoshimi
2642		Place of Burial & Cremation. Municipal Crematory				Examined and authenticated by The Ministry of Foreign Affairs.			
2643						Sd/-			
2644						YASUTERU ASAHINA Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Archives Section)			

It is certified that the above statement, abstracted from document on cremation permit is correct and true.

July 14, 1956.
Bureau of Health and Hygiene,
Taipeh Municipal Office. (SEALED)

(Internationaler Biographischer Pressdienst.

(International Biographic Press Service).

SUBHAS CHANDRA BASU

The fact is being gradually embodied from the contemporary events that Subhas Chandra Basu, the Indian Revolutionist, who was declared dead in an air-crash after the Second World-War, is waiting for an opportunity to hold his grip over the political back-ground of Asia.

BABU BOSE : MANN HINTER DEN FRONTEN. (MAN BEHIND THE FRONT.)

There has been a nuclear explosion by the side of India in October last, which is of a political nature and experimental only. But it has been inevitably resulted in. It came to be known within a few days by a radio announcement that Subhas Chandra Basu, the lost Indian Revolutionist, might deliver a speech over the Communist Radio of Peking. Of course, nothing has been heard after this mysterious announcement. But nobody said that he had a doubt that Shri Basu was actually alive. One thing more ; just at that time, when such a type of epochmaking political explosion took place at the north of Himalayas, Shri Nehru who was once a colleague and at present in opposition to Shri Basu was found to be staying in Washington at the invitation of President Truman. Is this just a sudden event ? Most of the Americans hoped that Shri Nehru would keep himself mum about this. Shri Nehru has done this. Of course he has said that he is ready to go to Moscow also if he be invited to go there. Did he understand from the outset of this incident that this event was a prologue for the advent of a man with a massive nuclear power ? As Lenin, in the revolutionary moment of 1917, reached Russia singling out Germany as his destination, Shri Basu also has once more adopted that measure for the interest of India.

It was this Basu who appeared in Tokyo directly within a year after his meeting with Hitler in May, 1942. The mystery how this dauntless expedition became possible in this war-ravaged Eastern Hemisphere of the world, has not yet come to light. But it was sure that Hitler had helped him by providing longranged aeroplanes, U-Boats, Blockade-brakers and many

other war-materials. Shri Basu, perhaps, considered the U-Boat expedient for his journey. The way of his disappearance from India secretly, in January, 1941, was dangerous too. Only at the age of sixteen, school student Shri Basu had once left for the Himalayas as a lonely and helpless visitor and roamed about from temple to temple in search of the eternal truth. This anti-British man had acquired the art of disguise accurately, while he was a student at the University of Cambridge. During his stay in Vienna between 1932 and 1935, he had acquired the art of face make-up from an Indian residing abroad. A picture, entitled "The Tiger of Ishanpur" was being prepared in Germany under the direction of that man at that time. This skill became useful to him, when, in February, 1941, he succeeded to reach Kabul with a view to meet the German Ambassador in Afghanistan throwing dust in the vigilant eyes of the Indo-British rulers, inspite of the warrant of arrest against him. At last the Italian Embassy assigned an Italian name to him and gave him a false passport as an Italian national.

Ten years before this incident, he was once a guest of Mussolini during his journey from Vienna to Rome. But this time, he was eager to meet Hitler and Ribbentrop as soon as possible. His first destination was Berlin. He crossed the border of Germany as an assistant of a German Engineer and arranged for visiting Moscow as a foreign tourist. The journey to Moscow through the Caucasus was decided, be it well or worse. The Indian Shri Basu did not know Italian but could understand Russian a little. But the Soviet people thought him to be a veteran through his gesture and posture. He did not utter a single word in the Passport Department and had spent a week in a comfortable room of a train taking, tea, milk, vodka and a large amount of beef. This was a matter of immense mental strength for a Caste-Hindu like him. But nothing such was improper to the superstition-less revolutionist Shri Basu. It was known to the Russians that he deeply studied Bolshevism as well as Facism. And both Mussolini and Stalin were his ideals. So, Kremlin greeted him warmly. Not a single word was uttered against him from Moscow, when he extended his support to Hitler and the Japanese. In the summer of 1933, he pronounced that no Asian could lend his support in favour of the Nazi Policy. But in 1942, when he put forward the proposal for the freedom-movement to the nation, he was convinced that Germany and Japan, the enemy of the British, would **naturally** lend their support to the Indians fighting for freedom.

But he did not find days well in Berlin. He went on waiting for months in the secluded room of a hotel with the hope to get some response. But he became utterly disappointed when he saw that the Soviet Union was attacked by war-monger Hitler. He remarked, "In this world war, this event is the gross error". Shri Basu then put some faith in Japan only. The participation of Japan in the Second World War suddenly brought about an unimaginable change in the South-East Asia, and, Shri Basu had played a great role in this political game of the world. He invaded Singapore and formed the Indian Revolutionary Government there. Accompanied by the Azad Hindu Fauz equipped with Japanese arms and ammunitions, he marched towards India through Burma. This was well-known to him, as he had passed through it as a Prisoner many times on his way to the Mandalay Jail.

This Revolutionary Army marching towards the Indian border had not been taken by the Indians as traitors, rather, was welcomed as heroes. And their 'Leader' was Shri Basu himself.

There is a proverb in India, "A person who is declared dead before his death gets a prolonged life". There was, beforehand, a news at the outset of the last war, that Shri Basu had died in an air-crash. This False-News brought a lot of garlands and condolence-letters to the family of this man, who was already officially declared as a traitor, from every corner of the country. In spite of this, Gandhi could not agree with Mr. Nehru, the then leader of India, on this discussion. Gandhi remarked about this dangerous man that, "Whatever he may be, he is not an enemy of our country. He has helped to a great extent to get the freedom - movement advanced". Having heard this sad news in April, 1942, Gandhi wrote in a condolent letter to the mother of Shri Basu, "He is the great and heroic son of India". But after a few days, his voice was heard over radio.

Shri Basu has been again announced to be dead after the Second World War. This announcement is also the result of the joint proclamation of the Government and the Enquiry Commission of the Allied Powers. Though in a Broadcast from Tokyo, it has been announced that Shri Basu was wounded and was later dead in an air-crash on his way to Formosa from the Taihoko airport, none in the world has paid any heed to this news. No one in India has at all believed it. On 21st October, 1946, after a year

of this accident, the Inquiry Commission of the Allied Powers proclaimed the decision that Shri Basu had actually passed away on 18th August, 1945, in a military hospital in Formosa. But man like Gandhi declared later, that, according to their views, Shri Basu was still alive. The Government of India said that they could not declare Shri Basu to be dead. The elder brother of Shri Basu has remarked at a National Conference of India, "I know nothing about this". No news was collected from the citizens of Japan who were in Tokyo, till the day when the American soldiers entered Tokyo. The bodyguard of Shri Basu saw a large and mysterious box with him on the day of his last departure.

No one has seen the body to be burning. Many experienced men of the East-Asia know that Japan announced many eminent persons to be "dead by air-crash" at the time of surrender. Subhas Chandra Basu, at the age of fifty, was man with good health, psychologically strong and a fore-seeing politician. Immediately after his joining with the Japanese, he had a doubt as to the result on the joint expedition of the Japanese army and his army. It can not be ignored that this strong and foreseeing man did not think for future. Was it now known to him how Moscow would utilise the Renaissance of Nationalism in Asia in the greater political game at present or in future ?

In 1945, when a chaos was prevailing over the whole of China on the victory of the Allied Powers, he could have easily enter into the Soviet Border in exchange of immense gold kept with him and leave for Moscow in a special plane to keep himself underground in a lonely place there. Then what does the news about his secret journey by a Steamer to Irish Free State mean, of which the British Port-authorities were not at all aware, yet Mr. Galahar, the leader of the British Communist Party has referred to on the occasion of a discussion on the freedom-movement of India ?

Millions of people in India still believe that there will be a change after an epoch, the result of which will make this country once more a heavenly one. BUDDHA-FACED, VETERAN YOGI SHRI BASU WILL, PERHAPS, ONCE BECOME THE FREEDOM-GIVER OF NOT ONLY INDIA BUT ALSO ASIA.

525j

ANNEXURE - 'A'

**TOP SECRET 4 SIGNALS OF HIKARI KIKAN REGARDING MOVEMENTS OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE**

**SEATIC Section
Intelligence Assault Unit.
7th Ind Div SLF SIAM**

24th September, 1945.

Subject : Translation of messages for death of Bose found in a file of reports belonging to the HIKARI KIKAN.

"TOP SECRET"

1. HIKARI KIKAN SIGNAL RE : "T" (TN : Bose)

August 18

To : OC HIKARI KIKAN

FROM : Chief of Staff, Southern Army,
Southern Army Signal 303.

Today at 1700 hrs (17 Aug) 'T' with Lt. Gen Shidei
and others, left here for TOKYO VIA FORMOSA and DAIREN.

Inform Indian Community of this

Depending on circumstances, I expect to return in two or three days.
(from OC KIKAN)

2. TO : OC KIKAN

FROM : Chief of Staff Southern Army.

Southern Army Staff II Signal 66 20th Aug. "TOP SECRET"

"T" while on the way to the capital, as a result of an accident to this
Aircraft at TAIHOKU at 1400 hrs on the 18th was seriously injured and
died at midnight on the same date. His body has been flown to TOKYO
by the Formosan Army

I have thanked the Formosan Army, for their kindness. Further I have
asked that proof of his death in the plane accident remains, photographs
etc. - be collected

526

- 2-

As for the centre, I am getting Staff Officer TADA, who leaves SAIGON on the 20th to take up an appointment, to provide them with a detailed report. I wish secrecy to be maintained in handling the matter.

3. HIKARI KIKAN SIGNAL RE : "T"

24 Aug. 1945

TO : OC MALAY Branch (TN : not clear)

OC SAIGON EMBARKATION POINT

Chief of Staff, Southern Army.

FROM: OC HIKARI KIKAN

Re: Death of 'T' please ensure that Indian communities are informed of the DOMEI despatch reporting 'T', death.

Document 128

4. HIKARI Message 1020

27 Aug. 1945

TO: CHIEF OF Staff, Southern Army

FROM : OC HIKARI KIKAN

Request urgently the report on the later progress of Col. 'HABIB RAHMAN'.

N.B. These messages were found in the ordinary file in their proper place and numbered and docketed in the usual manner. There was nothing suspicious about them and they did not appear to be interpolations.

Signals Nos. 4, 5, and 6

SEATIC DOCUMENT 128

DM

pp S. Hyder

Capt.

OC Section

ANNEXURE - 'B'

CONTRADICTIONARY STATEMENT OF DR. T. YOUSHIKI

DR. T. YOUSHIKI

STATEMENT ON 19.10.46 BEFORE
(THE 'ALLIED INTELLIGENCE')

1. On 18th August at 5 P.M., Bose with 6 or 7 persons were brought to the Hospital
(No mention about a Telephone message of crash)
2. He personally cleaned Bose's injuries with oil and **dressed** them.
3. Bose was suffering from extensive burns over the whole body - so much so that very **little was left of his identificatin marks** (Still this Japanese identified Netaji after 11 years of the crash when shown Netaji's photo (fully dresed) by the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee).

DEPOSITION FROM 21.5.56 TO 23.5.56
(BEFORE SHAH NAWAZ COMMITTEE)

On 18th at about **2 P.M.** received **Telephone message** from Airport intimating plane crash. **20 minutes** thereafter injured person brought including Bose. 13 or 14 persons were brought.

DR. TSURUTA (not he applied) white ointment against burns and bandaged.

He was severely burnt. It took a greyish colour like ash. **Even his heart had burnt. He had 3rd degree burns.** His face and eyes were swollen. He was in high fever; his temperature was 39°centigrade. His pulse rate was 120 per minute. His heart condition was also week.
(Can any-one remember all these details (even pulse rate) about a patient after 11 years and of whom no record was kept).

DEPOSITION ON 24.4.71
(BEFORE G.D. KHOSLA)

Little **before** noon received Telephone call from the Airport. 7 persons, including 2 Indians, arrived at the Hospital at about **12-30 P.M.**

He treated his burns all over his body. He was bandaged all over his body after applying plaster.

Chandra Bose suffered general burns all over the body. **His heart was not burnt.** That is a mistake.

(He signed the earlier statement after verifying the same). His burn was that of 3rd degree.

(Can anyone remain conscious after having 3rd degree burns ?)

His features still remained when he was brought to the Hospital, there where no bruises, no swelling, only the colour of the skin changed. Later on his face swelled. He admits that his earlier statement about swelling was incorrect.

(528)

Another important event was his journey to Switzerland. Lenin had himself in Switzerland. The people of the world know the political thoughts of Shri Basu.

His immense influence has spread all over India. If he remains alive and that is to be sure possible - the whole world, then, one day, will hear again his speech.

28.10.1949 - INTERPRESS. INTERNATIONAL BIOGRAPHIC PRESS
SERVICE.
PUBLICATION CODE 335/1949.

Ministry of External Affairs
(Coordination Division)

Subject: Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

In the papers below on the above subject, Director, FSO, with his note dated 3 July 1990 has attached a copy of Prof. Samar Guha's letter dated 17 May 1990, addressed to the Prime Minister. Subsequently, Prof. Guha wrote again to PM on 15 June 1990 to which PM replied on 27 June 1990 (Flag 'A' & 'B'). Since then a newspaper report appeared on 3 September 1990 referring again to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. Director, FSO, might like to see endorsement on PM's letter to Ministry of External Affairs for appropriate action.

Krit.

Atish Sinha,
Joint Secretary, Coord,
4.9.1990

Director, FSO,

These papers may
now be filed in
the EA Draw

July
9/11/91

JS (EA)

NR 11/11

Dr (EM)

2655 JS/4/91
7/5

4995-JS (Coord)/90
4.9

2678 JS/91

JS(EA) desired to
see Metaj Pros

W 7/5/82

JS(EA)

(1)

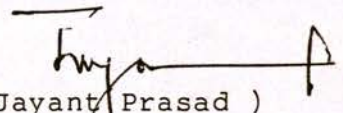
3198-75 (Coord) 190 (529)
3/7
MOST IMMEDIATE

FOREIGN SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Prof. Guha has written to the Prime Minister on locating some papers about Subhash Chandra Bose available in USSR, UK, Japan and USA.

2. About a decade back this question was considered in the Ministry and the NGO Section and Coordination Division have some papers on the subject. It is requested that any references/papers with the Historical Division may also be made available to Foreign Secretary's Office expeditiously. The text of the letter from Prof. Guha to PM is enclosed.

7678/PS/90
6/8


(Jayant Prasad)
Deputy Secretary (FSO)
July 3, 1990

Dr. Zachariah
Director, Hist. Divn.

✓ Copy with enclosure to: JS(Coord)

Placed below are Coord Div's files relating to Netaji Bose.
Kinke.

426/PS/PM/90 JS(PSO) Thanks 79/7
To, Coord JS(Coord) AS 6/8
Fay

530

8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032

May 12/1990
17

DR. SAMAR GUHA
Ex. संसद् सदस्य
(लोक सभा)



Dear Prime Minister,

I am sure it is known to you that during the days of Janata Govt. Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai made an announcement on the floor of Lok Sabha in August 1978 rejecting the finding of Shah Nawaj Committee and Khosla Commission on "disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose." According to various official documents available a general belief prevails in India that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose escaped to Soviet Russia under the camouflage of a fake air-crash at Taihoku airport of former Formosa after the defeat of Japan.

Sometime back I was convincingly told by an Indian engineer who had been in Russia that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was kept confined in a Re-orientation Camp in Siberia.

On the basis of various reports about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's presence in Russia I wrote the enclosed letter to the Soviet leader Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev. My letter was later forwarded to Mr. Gorbachev separately by Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, former President of India, and Shri S. Nijalingappa a former President of the Congress.

I also made a representation to the President of India Shri R. Venkatraman for taking up the matter with the Govt. of Soviet Russia. The President readily agreed to send my letter to Mr. Gorbachev to Shri Narisimha Rao, the then Minister of External Affairs.

My letter has not been replied by Mr. Gorbachev. Whether any positive step has been taken by the Government of India to contact Russian Govt. regarding the issue raised in the enclosed letter has not been informed to me.

I am giving you a fresh copy of my letter addressed to the Soviet leader Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev. I believe that you will consider it to be a sensitive national issue to take up the matter of Netaji's probable presence in Russia after the War with the Moscow authority.

Recently, Dr. E.S. Yurlova of Soviet Institute of Oriental Studies told the press ~~reports~~ on March 4, 1990 at Calcutta that 'the Soviet Govt. possess certain top secret documents on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which had never been made accessible.'

It is also known that many top secret documents on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the report of the plane crash alleging his death in

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Cult

संसद् सदस्य
(लोक सभा)



-2-

it are lying in classified secret files of the Governments of Japan, U.K., U.S.A. and Soviet Russia. After rejection of the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission on 'disappearance of Netaji' a suggestion was made to me by Janata Government that some positive efforts would be made for high level investigations into the secret documents in the hands of Soviet Russia, U.K., Japan and U.S.A. However, because of sudden collapse of the Janata Government the matter could not be pursued.

I would urge you to take up the matter of Netaji's probable presence in Russia after the War with the Soviet authority and also take positive steps for high level investigations into the documents that are lying with the Governments of U.K., Japan and USA to finally know what really happened to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I hope you will consider it a sacred national duty to make all efforts to finally know what really happened to the greatest national hero of the Indian national freedom, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

With thanks and regards,

Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh
Prime Minister of India
New Delhi

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha

(SAMAR GUHA)



PRIME MINISTER

New Delhi
June 27, 1990

Sub: Letter dated 15th June, 1990 regarding investigation into the documents of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

Dear Prof. Guha,

Your letter on the above subject has been received.
I shall have the matter looked into.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

[Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

Prof. Samar Guha
8/2, Central Park
Calcutta

No.870/11/P/17/90-POL

July 2, 1990

✓ Copy along with copy of the letter under reference forwarded for appropriate action to the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

OTM - pl. mark it
to concerned section.
6.7.90

(A.K. Tewary)
Deputy Secretary

J.S (Coord) may kindly see. Action to be taken in view of a few remarks (over)

J.S (Coord)

Urn
20.7.90

So, lead.
I marked our files yesterday to AS (P&O) re. p.w. with this letter when read back. AS
23/7

SAMAR GUHA
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



2A

533
8/2 CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA 700032

June 15/1990

Dear Prime Minister,

Whole nation will congratulate you for asking the Ministry of External to take steps to investigate into the secret documents on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose lying with the Governments of USSR, U.K. Japan and U.S.A.

If this investigations are done by a team of experts firmly, effectively and with diplomatic persuasiveness, I believe the mystery of disappearance of the legendary hero of our national freedom will be finally resolved.

I shall be able to be of some help to advise the investigating team if it likes it. It was the idea of Shri Morarji Desai, in 1978.

I am leaving for USA with my wife to see our only child there. We shall stay in USA care

Dr. Tirthankar Ghosh, Ph.D.
27, Cavendish Drive
Ambler, P.A-19002, USA
Ph: 001/215/628/2353

With ^{best} regards and namaskar,

Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh
Prime Minister of India
5 Race Course, ND 110011

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha
(SAMAR GUHA)

13145-21/82
29/6

3468 / 10/1/90
27/6

28



राष्ट्रपति
भारत गणतंत्र
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF INDIA

New Delhi,
June 4, 1990

Dear Prof. Guha,

Thank you for your letter of May 25, 1990.
I have passed on the memorandum on Netaji to our
Prime Minister who has already acknowledged it.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

R. Venkataraman

R. VENKATARAMAN

Prof. Samar Guha,
8/2, Central Park,
CALCUTTA 700032.

'Fresh clue on Netaji's death'

The Times of India News Service

CALCUTTA, September 2: THE controversy over the mystery of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death was revived here yesterday when Mr Amiya Nath Bose, a nephew of Netaji, claimed that he had received fresh information that Netaji did not die in an air crash at Taihoku airport on August 18, 1945, but something very bad had happened to him in 1947.

Mr Amiya Nath Bose, former MP and former Indian ambassador to Burma, told newsmen that earlier this week a former Swedish diplomat, now involved in human rights movement in Europe, had told him over telephone from Geneva that he had some very bad news about Subhas Chandra Bose, dating back to 1947.

However, the Swedish diplomat was not prepared to disclose anything more over the telephone and urged Mr Bose to fly to Europe as early as possible to help him in making further inquiries in the matter.

Mr Bose revealed to newsmen that his father, late Mr Sarat Chandra Bose, had received information through diplomatic channels in 1949 that Netaji might have been executed in the Soviet Union by Stalin or he had been held in custody in a concentration camp.

PATEL HELP SOUGHT : At that time Mr Sarat Chandra Bose had tried to get to the truth with the help of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. A letter was sent to Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the then Indian ambassador to Moscow, but, unfortunately, no reply was received from Dr. Radhakrishnan.

Mr Bose said that since the Soviet president, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, had recently admitted that the two Indian revolutionaries, Abani Mukherjee and Virendra Nath Chattopadhyay, had been liquidated by Stalin, he would request the government of India to urge Mr Gorbachov to unravel the

mystery surrounding the last days of Netaji in the Soviet Union.

He said American intelligence reports clearly stated that there had been no air crash at Taihoku airport in Formosa in August, 1945 and that Netaji was able to reach safety his "pre-determined destination", which, according to Mr Bose, was Manchuria. He pointed out that Manchuria was occupied by the Soviet Union from Japan after atom bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Mr Bose said that Colonel Habibur Rahman of the INA, who was with Netaji while the latter was escaping, admitted in Pakistan a few months before his death that there had been no air crash at Taihoku airport in August, 1945. All these new facts went to show that Subhas Chandra Bose had not died in air crash at Taihoku airport in 1945, Mr Bose asserted.

Row over MP official's appointment

The Times of India News Service

BHOPAL, September 2: The Madhya Pradesh chief secretary, Mr R. P. Kapoor, finds himself in the midst of an unseemly controversy over the appointment of his son-in-law, Mr Rajeev Oberoi, as the additional director, institutional finances, in the state government, on deputation from the Reserve Bank of India.

Though so far the manner in which Mr Kapoor had run the affairs of the state had earned him appreciation even from former chief ministers, this controversy blots his copybook.

On the BJP-RSS yardstick, any charge related to personal weakness rate much higher than inefficiency. This incident, then assumes more significance. It has been publicising the fact that there are no charges of personal corruption against it.

Ref. 16
MSR

SMT. PRIMROSE R. SHARMA

DIRECTOR(JKM)

37

No. C/551/14/90-JP

5th November, 1990.

My dear

Please refer to your letter No. 580/31/C/24/90-E&S-II, dated 20th September, 1990, addressed to Secretary, Culture, on the question of Netaji's ashes which was raised by Shri Chitta Basu, MP & General Secretary, All India Forward Block, with the Prime Minister.

2. The case in turn was referred to this Ministry by Shri G. Venkataramani, Deputy Secretary(VA), Deptt. of Culture, MHRD, for comments.

3. This Ministry had separately prepared a note on the alleged ashes of Subhash Chandra Bose on the basis of material/information available with us for the MHA, who we were given to understand were preparing a note for the CCPA. A copy of the note is enclosed herewith.

Yours sincerely,

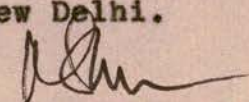
Sd/-

(PRIMROSE R. SHARMA)

Shri Ajoy Acharya,
Director,
Prime Minister's Office,
NEW DELHI.

Copy for information, to:-

Shri G. Venkataramani, Dy. Secretary(VA),
Deptt of Culture, MHRD, New Delhi.


(PRIMROSE R. SHARMA)
DIRECTOR(JKM)

a/c

9886/END/90

20/12

(536)

Most Immediate

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
FREEDOM FIGHTERS' DIVISION
(POLICY SECTION)

...

Sub:- Demands made by All India Freedom
Fighters Organisation and All India
Netaji Memorial Committee.

Reference this Ministry's U.O. Note of even
number of. 5/10/90 on the subject cited above.

2. The action taken in the matter may please be
intimated to this Ministry urgently.

AC
PPM
Dictn

[Signature]
For Under Secy. to the Govt. of India

✓ Ministry of External Affairs
(Mrs. Narender Chauhan), Under Secy. (East Asia)
South Block, New Delhi.

M.H.A. U.O. No.4/50/90-FF(P) dated: 17.12.90

(537)

No. C-1551/14/90-SP
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
EAST ASIA DIVISION

Dated: 19.12.90

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub:- Demands made by All India Freedom
Fighters Organisation and All India
Netaji Memorial Committee.

With reference to Ministry of Home Affairs U.O. Note
NO. 4/50/90-FF(P) dated 17.12.90 on the subject mentioned
above. It may kindly be noted that the matter is being
dealt with ^{by} Dir (JKM), Mrs. Primrose R. Sharma. Any
communication on the subject mentioned above may kindly
be directed to Director (JKM), *Ministry of External
Affairs*.

N. Chauhan
(Mrs. Narinder Chauhan)
Under Secretary (EA)

Ministry of Home Affairs
Freedom Fighters' Division
Policy Section,
New Delhi.

*185d
20/12/90*



देवी लाल
DEVI LAL

2362/PM/91
4/4

18/3

D. No. 1805

D. PM & AM/91

उप प्रधान मंत्री

एवं कृषि मंत्री

भारत सरकार

नई दिल्ली-110001

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
AND

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI-110001

March 13, 1991

Dear Prof. Guha,

Your letter dated 26th February was received by me on 7th March, 1991 regarding high level investigation into 'secret documents' on Disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. I am forwarding your letter to Minister of External Affairs for appropriate action.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

SD —

(Devi Lal)

Prof. Samar Guha,
Ex-Member of Parliament(LS),
8/2, Central Park,
Calcutta-700 032.

D. No. 1805/91 D. PM & AM/91

✓ Copy alongwith the original letter forwarded to PS to Minister of External Affairs for necessary action.

K.K. Deepak

(K.K. Deepak)

OSD to Deputy Prime Minister

P.I. sph.

18/3

Dr. (PM)

Draft reply, pl.
K.K. Deepak
15/3
JB (EA)

PROF. SAMAR GUHA
Ex. MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



538

RECEIVED ON: 7/3

Dear Subilalji

I hope you will remember that Shri Morarji Desai, in a public statement in Lok Sabha on September, 1978, declined to accept the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission of Enquiry into 'disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose' since August 18, 1945 as 'conclusive'. Shri Morarji Desai as the then Prime Minister of India, thus, re-opened the issue of a fresh inquiry about Netaji mystery.

Morarjibhai, thereafter, suggested to me that instead of holding any public enquiry after so many years of alledged air crash involving Netaji it will be more effective if an Investigative Inquiry by experts is made to find out what really happened to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. I agreed to Morarjibhai's suggestion. But sudden political change in 1979 kept the matter hanging.

After the National Front Government came into power I took up the matter with the President of India, Shri R. Venkataraman and the then Prime Minister, Shri V.P. Singh. On an advice from the President Shri R. Venkataraman, Shri V.P. Singh agreed to start a high level Investigative Inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and informed me in a letter dt. 7.6.90:

"...I have asked the Minister of External Affairs for high level investigation into 'secret documents' on Disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose believe to be available in the USSR, UK, Japan and USA".
(See Annexure I)

But because of sudden political change the proposed Investigation could not be started.

After installation of the Government under Shri Chandrasekhar, I made a fresh move to meet the President and the Prime Minister for implementing the assurance given by the National Front Government. The President of India took up the matter with Shri Chandrasekhar who agreed to implement the advice of the President for a fresh Investigative Inquiry into the mystery shrouding the fate of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The Joint Secretary to the President of India informed me in a letter dt. January 29, 1991:

"The President wishes me to convey his thanks to you for your letter of January 21, and to let you know that he had taken up the subject with the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has informed the President that the issue will be looked into."
(See Annexure II)

I trust you will feel that it is our overdue national duty to find out what really happened to the greatest national hero of our National Liberation, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Let our future generation not accuse us of failure to acknowledge our gratitude to the Revolutionary Pilgrim of India who dedicated himself absolutely in fulfilment of the mission of liberation of his motherland.

I would urge you, in the name of God and our Motherland to take up the matter with the Prime Minister - Shri Chandrasekhar requesting him to set up immediately an Expert Committee for High Level Investigation into the 'secret documents' on disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose believed to be available with the Governments of USSR, Japan, UK, USA and China.

I believe you will raise the matter on the floor of the Parliament as well to create a moral compulsion on the Government to fulfil our national duty to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

With regards,

26th February,
8/2, Central Park,
Calcutta - 700 032.

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha
(SAMAR GUHA)



340

PRIME MINISTER

New Delhi
June 27, 1990

Sub: Letter dated 15th June, 1990 regarding investigation
into the documents of Netaji Subhas Chandra
Bose

Dear Prof. Guha,

Your letter on the above subject has been received.
I shall have the matter looked into.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Samar Guha
8/2, Central Park
Calcutta

[Vishwanath Pratap Singh]



भारत के राष्ट्रपति का संयुक्त सचिव
Joint Secretary to the President of India

No F 3/JS/91

ANNEXURE II

राष्ट्रपति भवन
नई दिल्ली

*Rashtrapati Bhavan
New Delhi*

January 29, 1991.

Dear Professor,

The President wishes me to convey his thanks to you for
your letter of January 21, and to let you know that he had taken up
the subject with the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has
informed the President that the issue will be looked into.

With regards

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Samar Guha,
8/2, Central Park,
Calcutta 700032.

Gopal Krishna Gandhi
Gopal Krishna Gandhi



No. 489/Dm/91

(54)

विदेश उप मंत्री
भारत
DEPUTY MINISTER
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INDIA

March 26, 1991

Dear Prof. Samar Guha

Kindly refer to your letter of 26th February, 1991 addressed to Shri Devi Lal concerning high level investigation into "secret documents" on the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. I would like to assure you that this Ministry has already initiated follow-up action in this regard. We are awaiting results to our enquiries.

3. We shall keep you informed of any further developments.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(DIGVIJAY SINGH)

Prof. Samar Guha,
Ex-Member of Parliament,
8/2, Central Park,
CALCUTTA - 700032

15137 Dir (EA) 1/8/91

SECRET

1588-JS/21/91
8/5

D.O. No. I/12014/6/90-IS(D.III)

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

गृह मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

542

C.V.S.K. SARMA
DEPUTY SECRETARY

S-1466/EA/1/91

2/5/91

New Delhi

Dated the 4th April, 1991

5 APR 1991

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to your D.O. letter No. C/551/14/90-JP dated 22nd October, 1990 regarding a note on ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. A note for the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs incorporating the views of Ministry of External Affairs on the dispute regarding ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and also controversy about whether Netaji is dead or still alive was submitted to Cabinet Committee of Political Affairs for their consideration. The Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs at its meeting held on 27.2.91 considered the note dated 10.1.91 and approved the proposal contained in para 11 thereof. Extracts of para 11 of the note are also enclosed for reference.

3. This is for your kind information please.

Yours sincerely,

Regards,

Dir. I

(C.V.S.K. SARMA)

Shri Shyam Saran,
Joint Secretary (EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
NEW DELHI.

i.e. We continue as before!
Pl. also inform

Tokyo

8/4

N. a. pl.
NR 26/4

Dir (EA)

Dir (DM)

SC Approved
Dir 15/4/91

(548)

11. The issue of Netaji's death and bringing of ashes to India is surcharged with emotion. We have already had two enquiries on the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. It has already been accepted that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in the air crash on the 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. The Ministry of Home Affairs are, therefore, of the view that no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another inquiry or by bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions.

To

The Honourable President of India,
New Delhi.

Honourable Sir,

Most humbly and respectfully I like to draw your kind attention that the Govt. of India announced the death of Netaji and He is offered ~~MARANUTTAR~~ Bharat Ratna on 23rd January, 1992.

On the 26th January, 1992 at 1-30 P.M. Indian Broad Easting Authority declared Netaji was killed in 1945. But how where he was killed and by whom. This is the duty of the Govt. to open the secret matter to the Nation.

I think you know well that Netaji is that type of leader who plunged himself in the smerge of reckless abandon in persuit of freedom of Motherland. He is not a ordinary type of Politician, He is much more than that He is a saint of patriot of India, He is not a mere revolutionery, but he is also a missionery.

Today we are passing through natural crysis. The galvanising image and the inspiration of Netaji should brought into the heart of Delhi for our National servival. We think only his message and only his ideal of Revolutionery Nationalism can save India.

This is why there ia a lot of speculation repant in the country whether Subhas Chandra Bose is dead or alive.

Honourable Sir, now some statements and docu-ments which extremely contradictory to the Commissions.

All the facts and points are collected from Jugantar Paper published by Sri Sushanta Kumar Mitra from the dated 28-11-90 to 10-12-90. Statement on 19-10-46 before Allied intellengence (1) on August 18th 1945 at 5 P.M. Bose with 6 or 7 persons were brought to the Hospital (no mention about a tele-messege of air crash) Deposition from 21-5-56 to 25-5-56 before Saha Nowaj Committee) on 18th at about 2 P.M. received telephone message from Airport intimating Air Crash 20 munites thereafter injured persons brought including Subhas Chandra Bose, 13 or 14 persons were brought deposition on 24-4-74 before J.D.Kheshla little before noon received telephone call from the Airport 7 persons including 2 Indians arrived hospital at about 12-30 P.M.

contd..p/2

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In 1945 Mr. Wavell said - I wonder if the Japanese announced of Subhas Chandra Bose's death in an Air Crash, is true, I suspect it very much, it is just what would be given out if he meant to go underground ~~meed~~ dt. 24-8-45 page-164.

wavell the vicarays edited Pandera moon

There was a plan to allow Bose escape and to publish a false story regarding death (HB main file No.10 MISC No.273 page No.10).

Netaji prepared to try another road to Delhi via Moscow (HQ/ main file No.10/Misc-INA-273 subject Subhas Chandra Bose. ~~xxxxxxing~~

Netaji Sibhas Chandra Bose preparing to leave for Moscow in order to place all informations about the India's freedom movement before the leaders of the USSR. It was also said Col. S.A. Mullick would follow S.C.Bose had left for Moscow and was soon expected back in Tokyo. Secret file No.249/INA-11(H)U.H.Q. ~~ENR~~ Case on Subhas Chandra Bose.

ISODA had come here (Singapore) to workant and coordinate his deception plan with Lt. Jt. NIMATA and he styed on untill this plan had been executed under his personal supervision (Secret file No.63/2/10 G S(b) HQ SACS Commission, 18-10-45.

Netaji Wrote a letter to E. Bhaskaran " I am writing this letter to you as I am on the eve of taking a long journey by air who knows an accident may not overtake me " (Evidence of E.Bhaskaran confidential Secretary to Netaji).

S.A.Ayer said - But where was Netaji going we did not ask him and did not tell us but we know and he knew that we knew. The plane was bound to Manchuria (unto him a ^{witness} victim page No.69.) ~~Page 69~~

On 4-4-55 in col. No.6 of Ananda Bazar paper Habibur Rahman said -"There had been no Air crash and Netaji is still alive". So the so-called Air crash and Ashes of Netaji in Renkoji temple is created.

In the 10th May 1946 (Page No.5 of No.5 recorded - Habibur Rahaman's report is not satisfactory. The multitude of discrepancies in accident of actual air crash as given first of CIC in Tokyo and later to CSDIC is being taken up. In 1951 Dr. Phizo said - "Netaji did not die in any Air Crash".

There are major discrepancies regarding the disposal of the body. The discrepancy here is great and appears suspicions

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-: Page/3 :-

In addition, it is a deception plan it is one which has been extremely carefully and ingeniously organised.

It is possible that Netaji escaped from the Air Crash unburnt and either hid in FORMOSA on his own initiative, or was hidden by local authorities who took an adhoc decision (Top secret letter No.SLOCSI, dated 1-3-46 from CIC -B to DA(T) page No.30.

There are so many documents and facts in the personal file of Mr. Jawar Lal Nehru flashed in Jugantar paper on 28-11-90 like those - 1-A, B-A, 3-A, 6-A, 8-A; 16-A(UO note No.D/S 86-6 dated August 24th 1953 from MOHD. YUNUS USMEA (SEA) to PM's Secretariat) 23-B (letter No.2062 (Accts) dated April 12th, 1954 from Joint Secretary INA (Enquiry and relief Committee-82, DARYAGANG-7 Delhi to the President) 34-A (Rajya Sabha starred question No.334 dated August 2nd, 1955) 37 BCD (Enclosures to serial No.37-A and notes 11,12,13,14,15,18,19,23,24,25,26 and 29 file No.23(156, 51 PM(Indian National Army (INA) in the far east) 23(11) 56-57 PM (INA Treasure) 12 (226 56 PM(Investigation with the circumstances leading to the death of Subhas Chandra Bose.

/the
All/above facts were called to the Saha Nawaj Committee But Mr. Nehru denied and declared as it was lost or destroyed. So that the real facts were not submitted to the Commissions. As a result it means that there was great causes against the death of Netaji.

Now after broadcasting the news of death of Netaji Gandhijee sent telegram to the Bose family not to perform Sradha ceremony but to hold a mild prayer.

In the year 1946 Gandhijee said again I believe Subhas Bose is still alive and "hiding some where"

The hypnotism of INA has cast spell on us, Netaji's name is on to conjure with His Patriotism is second to now(I used the present tense intentionally) His bravary shines through all his actions.

After getting release from Jail Mr. Saigal and Saha Nawaj Khan asked Gandhijee about the news of death of Netaji. But Gandhijee said again - whatever you tell me to the contrary, I still believe in my hearty of hearts that Subhas Chandra Bose is still alive. So the news of death would be true then how Gandhijee told in several times so strongly. Secret file No.(10/

contd..p/4

546

(10/NISC/INA 273 page 33). There is however a secret report which says Nehru received a letter from Bose saying he was in Russia and he wanted to escape to India via China. The information alleges that Gandhijee & Sarat Bose are among those who are aware of this - it is probable that the letter from Bose arrived about the time Gandhijee made this public statement. In January also Sarat Bose is reported to have said that he was convinced his brother was alive.

Gandhijee said again in Guwahati in a prayer on 11 January 1946 - I do not think Subhas Bose is dead, he is hiding some where and would come in time.

We think millions of people in India still believe that there will be a change after an epoch the result of which will make this country once more a ~~max~~ havenly one, Buddha faced Vitaran Yogi Shri Basu will perhaps once become the freedom giver of not only India but also Asia (Interpress - International graphisohar Pressedum Asqule Politic 335-1949 dated 26-10-49).

Former and first Ambassador Mrs. Bijoy Laxmi Pandit after coming back from Russia said in Bombay in 1948-49 " I have brought such a good news for the Indian people that will startle the whole country and the resultant rejoicing would be of more intensity than at the time of Independence what was the good news suppressed by the Govt. ?

It was Lord Mountbatten who had diabolically demolished an INA statue in Singapore in 1946 where Mr. Nehru met him. On that occasion, Mr. Mountbatten had warned Nehru not to pay up Netaji or the INA for that would be tantamount to offering the Primeir-ship of India on a platter to Subhas. In the light of the above facts one hardly finds any difficulty to understand why Netaji is remaining in cognite and what he espies to do, Mountbatten was due to learn Indian Politics from Subhas Chandra. Death for the great cause is the goal of Netaji, who carries for success or non-success. It is better to die in the field of battle than to lead a life of a ~~doubt~~ defeat. The personal diary of Mountbatten is not opened till today.

Leaving aside the above cited fact on August 18, 1945 in an answer to a question at the British Parliament Mr. Clement Attlee, the premier of Britain said there had been an agreement with the Indian leaders that whenever Subhas Basu's arrest would

be secured. He would be handed over to Britain. He who receipts the agreement as true points hid finger to the following words gathered by expert in the field and at the same time offers to take others on his shoulder with to find its reason all but officially released untill 1999.

Everybody knows well there was two main ways for the freedom movement of India. Violence - non-violence and India could ~~not~~ be free by means of non-violence.

So, non-violence by Mahatma Gandhi and violence by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose with INA, both the ways of freedom movement must coincide in independence to India.

Both the extra-ordinary personalities were greatest revolutionery of our mother land. So, the Bharat Ratna award is not appropriate to Mahatma Gandhi and Netaji. They are more than that of such award.

I think ~~mayxhe~~ Gandhijee may be called father of the fathers and Netaji will be awarded leader of the leaders of the nations.

Therefore, I pray to your kindself that as a President of our country will no doubt produce the mystery to the International court to finalise the matter whether Netaji is war criminal or not and hand over the matter to the UN Commission on human rights whether ~~xxxxx~~ He is alive or not and oblige thereby.

With great regards, thanking you, Sir,

'JAI HIND'

Yours faithfully,

Anil Krishna Sharma
(Anil Krishna Sharma)

Vice Chairman
All India Forward Bloc
Tripura State Committee
Dharmanagar.

Copy to :-

1. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Govt. of India.
2. Hon'ble Speaker, Loksabha, Govt. of India.
3. Hon'ble Former Prime Minister, Govt. of India, Mr. V.P. Singh.
- ✓ 4. Hon'ble Foreign Minister, Govt. of India,
5. Srijut Chitta Basu, M.P., New Delhi.
6. Srijut, Samar Guha, Ex. M.P.
7. Hon'ble Minister, Social Welfare & Sports, Govt. of India.
8. Srijut L.K. Adbani, the opposition leader, Parliament.
9. Srijut, Sidhartha Sankar Roy, Ex. Chief Minister.
10. Sri Amiya Bosu.

For favour of
information
please.

Yours faithfully,

Anil Krishna Sharma
(Anil Krishna Sharma)
Vice Chairman
All India Forward Bloc
Tripura State Committee
Dharmanagar.

* In January 19, 1946 a Radio speech was broadcast from Manchuria. It was like that " We must get freedom within two years. The British Imperialism is broken down and it must coincide in India will not be freely means of non-violence -Violence but I am quite respectful to Mr. M.K.Ghandi. The battle of freedom is not easy. But I can assure that we will get freedom of India very soon. I know that many Indians are waiting for me. I am quite sure to be successful within two years".

Most of the people of our country remarked that the voice was of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as per flashed by the Jugantar Paper.

"In December a report said that the Governor of the Afgan Province have been informed by the Russian Ambassador Kabul that there were many Congress refugees in Moscow and Bose was included in there numbers" (Secret H.Q. main file No. 10 MISC INA 273 Page 39.

The view is that Rassian officers are disclosing or alleging that Bose is in Moscow is supplied in a report received from Teharan.

After receiving this news Mr. Jawahar Lal Nehru wrote a letter to Mr. Attle (Premier of British, I understand from a realiable source that Subhas Ch. Bose, your war criminal has been allowed to enter the Russian Territory by Stalin. This is clear Treachary and betrayal of faith by the Russians. As Russia has been an ally of the British & Americans. It should not have been done. Please take note of it and do what you consider proper and fit.

Yours Sincerely

Jaraharlal Nehru

This letter was typed by the Stenotypist of Mr. Nehru. This evidence was given by Shyamlal Jain of Mirat in Khoshle Commission (Secret H.Q. file No.10 Misc INA 273 Page No.39.

So, it was after 5 months later of the so-called Air Crash. Now, how the concious citizen of India believe the death of Netaji on that Air Crash.

4978-25(5.1)/90
788/90
(549)



Shivshankar Menon
Deputy Chief of Mission

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886INDEMB J
Phone: 03 (262) 2391
Fax: 03 (234) 4866

No. TOK/551/1/81

August 20, 1990

My dear Vijay,

Please refer to the correspondence resting with Director(EA)'s Fax message of August 17, 1990, regarding Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes.

2. I am enclosing with this letter a note recorded by Counsellor Mathur who attended the annual memorial service at Renkoji Temple on August 18, 1990.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shivshankar

(SHIVSHANKAR MENON)

Shri V.K. Nambiar,
Joint Secretary(EA),
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

29/8

SAO

Yadav
rule

580 (550)

Embassy of India
Tokyo.

As desired by the Ambassador, I attended the memorial service held at the Renkoji Temple for Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes on August 18 '90.

2. This was a special occasion for two reasons. Firstly, they unveiled a bust of Netaji in the temple premises. This bust is about 3 ft high mounted on a 5 ft pedestal. It is permanently placed near the entrance to the temple.

3. The second reason was that this was the 45th anniversary of the death of Netaji and as such assumed some importance.

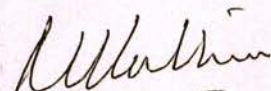
4. There were a large number/ of Japanese guests present including many old timers who had been associated with Netaji during his stay in Japan. These included the President of the Academy General Katakura (94), General Asuno (95), Mr Okuda, Mr Hayashi who is the Secretary of the Academy and Mr Shimoda of the Kokusai Foto Company etc.

5. A number of Indian guests were also present. They were Mr. Sheel Bhadra Yajee, Dr Sisir Bose, Col PK Sahgal, Mrs Lakshmi Sahgal, one Capt Dasam, Capt Yadav and Mrs Janaki (of the Rani Jhansi Brigade). Mrs Janaki has been a Member of Parliament and Minister in Malaysia.

6. The person behind this celebrations is one Mrs Matsushima, whose mother was very closely associated with Netaji while he was in Japan. Mrs. Matsushima and one or two others, fund these annual commemorative occasions and also met all expenses related to the bust as well as the presence of the Indian visitors this time.

7. A number of speeches were given on the occasion by both Japanese and Indians and in their private talks the elderly Japanese reiterated to me the need to return the ashes to India as there would be no one left to look after these in a few years. There was no indication that this was the last such commemorative ceremony. There was no pressure either from the Indians present to take the ashes back. They obviously understood the correct position. Mr Yajee did, however, emphasise to me the need for the Embassy to take up strongly the matter of the return of the ashes so that it would form part of the decision making process in India.

8. A Newspaper man from Hong Kong, Harvey Stockwin, was also present.



(R. Mathur)
Counsellor (Cons)

20.8.90

(551)

980/100/CR 190

17/8

(24)

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

नई दिल्ली-110011

NEW DELHI-110011

Forwarded to Ministry of External
Affairs,

New Delhi

Discussed 6/19/EAR/90
20/8
With JS (EA) No further
action. JS (EA) has taken
को उचित कार्यवाही के लिए प्रेषित
for appropriate action...
Prime Office

इस पत्र की प्राप्ति सूचना नहीं भेजी गई है।
The Communications has not been
acknowledged.

EAD

24/8/90

(K. Mohandas)
for DS(T)

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय गै० पत्र सं०.....

दिनांक.....

Prime Minister's Office U.O.No. 15837-POL/90

Dated... 16/8/90.....

GOBINDA MUKHOTY

Barrister-at-Law,
Senior Advocate,
Supreme Court of India,
New Delhi.

7th August, 1990.

(552) (49)
213, Jor Bagh,
New Delhi-110003
Telephone: 622027
690887

Member, LAWASIA

Human Rights Standing Committee, Australia

Advisory Board, SOS-Torture, Geneva

&

People's Union for Democratic Rights, Delhi.

Shri V.P. Singh,
Prime Minister of India,
Race Course Road,
New Delhi-110011.

Re: Bringing the alleged ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra
Bose from Japan.

Dear Shri Singh,

I have been told that the present Government have agreed, on the representation of certain persons, to bring alleged ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan. It will be very unfortunate, if the Government agreed to such suggestion, - because there is no proof that Netaji died at the relevant point of time or that the ashes in some temple close to Tokyo, Japan are actually the ashes of the dead body of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

On the request of the National Committee, composed of a number of Members of Parliament at that of time, I appeared before Khosla Commission and there was no conclusive proof of Netaji's death.

As a result, as far as I remember, the Parliament, ultimately decided at the instance of Prof. Samar Guha, ex-M.P. that it was not satisfied about the finding of Khosla Commission regarding Netaji's alleged death. That was during Janata Regime, - way back in between 1977-1979.

It is necessary to find out the truth about the alleged death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the Khosla Commission Report does not bring out the truth.

In any event, before your Government take such action, you will, perhaps, discuss with Professor Samar Guha, the Vice-President of the Janata Dal of Bengal and other like-minded persons, including Shri Sisir Bose, one of the nephews of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

(GOBINDA MUKHOTY)

15837-Relgo



REGISTERED A.D.

48/0-75(EA)/90 (452)
17/8/90 (558)
Legal Notice

नेताजी सुभाष चंद्र बोस शोध प्रतिष्ठान
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation

(NSCBRF - JAIPUR)

Ref. No.

JAIPUR
Dated 15 August 90

Cabinet Minister Shri Indra Kumar Gujral,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India,
South Block,
New Delhi - 110011

Sub : (i) The proposed plan to bring the so called ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose to India from Japan and (ii) Compliance of Rajasthan High Court order dated 18.1.1986 on S.B.Civil Writ No.902 of 1984, Nand Lal Sharma V/s Union of India.

Dear sir,

I, in my capacity as advocate of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation, Jaipur do hereby write to you in respect of the above subject as under:

1. That you must be well aware that the Rajasthan High Court had issued directions as per order cited in the subject to the Union of India to enquire afresh into the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose through its Ministry of External Affairs. The directions of the Rajasthan High Court together with the said order dated 18.1.1986 have been communicated to the Ministry of External Affairs and also to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. That I regret to write that no enquiry has been started in respect of the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose even though a substantive long period has elapsed since the order of the Rajasthan High Court.
3. That I regret to write that further to avoid compliance, I understand, the Government of India and the Government of Japan are jointly planning to bring the so called ashes of Netaji Subhash Bose to India from Japan with active cooperation of self interested persons heading the newly formed "All India Netaji Memorial Committee, 82, Darya Ganj, New Delhi-2" in their capacity as president and Secretary and few others. While arguing the petition SBCW 902/1984, the petitioner had proved on the basis of authentic documents that Netaji did not die in any plane crash whatsoever on 18th August 1945. The Rajasthan High Court Jaipur, therefore, thought it proper to ask the Government of India to enquire afresh into disappearance of Netaji. The Government of India is not obeying the said order

President

Dr. R. M. KASLIWAL
Founder Member NSCBRF,
Chittaranjan Marg, Jaipur 302001

(Registered Under Rajasthan Societies Act, 1958)

Convenor

Professor V. L. TALEKAR
Founder Member NSCBRF,
C-169, Bajaj Nagar, Jaipur 302015

5342/EAM/90
17/8/90

NR
17/8

JS(EA) or

We may seek
views of L & T
bureau on
applicability
of High Court
decision by

JS(EA) 20/8

- 2 -

in any way and is trying to avoid the same by bringing the socalled ashes from Japan to India, thereby wrongly putting a seal of death on Netaji inspite of the said order. My client, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Foundation, Jaipur a registered society founded by the then Petitioner Nand Lal Sharma is the legal successor to him. My client rightly believes that so called ashes of Netaji are fake because since Netaji did not die in any plane crash whatsoever there cannot be any ashes of his.

4. That I hereby bring to your notice that in such cricumstances the bringing of socalled ashes of Netaji to India from Japan will constitute disobedience of the High Court order and therefore shall form a legal cause for filing an application in Rajasthan High Court under the contempt of courts Act against any one who participates, helps or abates such an action.

You are therefore requested to refrain from bringing any socalled ashes of Netaji to India from Japan. This may be taken as a legal notice/warning to you and your Government and to one and all if so engaged that the consequences of such an action will be entirely your own responsibility.

Yours truly

G. L. Pareek

(Ganga Lahari Pareek)
Advocate for
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
Research Foundation,
C-169, Bajaj Nagar
JAIPUR-302015



नेताजी सुभाष चंद्र बोस शोध प्रतिष्ठान

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation

(NSCBRF)

Convenor

Professor V. L. TALEKAR

Founder Member NSCBRF,

C-169, Bajaj Nagar, Jaipur 302017

Ref. No.

NETAJI CASE IS REOPENED

READ ON 2

Rajasthan

PATRIKA

March 16, 1986 2

SUNDAY MAGAZINE

Netaji Case

By Prof. V.L. Talekar, Founder Director, Dr. Subhash Memorial Foundation, Jaipur.

INDIAN EXPRESS

Delhi: Thursday, January 23, 1986

Court orders
govt to reopen
Netaji case

JNIPUR, Jan 22 (PTI).

The Rajasthan High Court has directed the Union Government to "examine afresh with open mind" the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Justice S. N. Bhargava gave this direction on a writ petition filed by a freedom fighter, Mr Nand Lal Sharma, who urged the court to order an open judicial inquiry at the international level to know the whereabouts of Netaji.

The court directed the concerned secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs to "look into the matter dispassionately and hear the petitioner in person patiently and examine the documents he wants to produce the support of his contention".



Netaji Subhashchandra Bose did not die in the so called plane crash in Taiwan, as many would have us believe. He survived and, in face of defeat, raised the third Indian National Army to fight the British. He was captured but escaped.



1231
15/2/86

To: The Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Union of India, South Block,
Central Secretariat, New Delhi
NEW-DELHI

S.O. and Writ A.A.M. No. 903/86.
Nand Lal Sharma B. Ch. of Secretary, South Block,
Jaipur and Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi

Sir,
I am directed to send herewith a copy of the Order dated 18-1-86 passed by this Honble Court, while disposing of the above noted Writ A.A.M. for the above noted writ A.A.M. for information and necessary compliance. Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
Dy. Registrar

NETAJI CASE RESURRECTED: The Rajasthan High Court of Judicature, Jaipur, Recently passed an order in case of Nandlal Sharma, a veteran freedom fighter, pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. It was a S.B. Civil writ petition under article 226 read with article 51 of the Indian Constitution directed against the Government of In-

dia, asking for reopening of the issue of Netaji's supposed death, as decided by Shah Nawaz Commission of 1956 and again by Khosla Commission of 1971. The writ claimed that Netaji did not die on 18th August 1945 in the so called plane crash in Taiwan, as generally believed. Justice S.N. Bhargava, dated 18th Jan. 1986, has rightly

directed the Government of India to look into the matter dispassionately, hear the petitioner patiently and examine the documents already submitted and to be submitted in future by him. The order of the High Court to reopen the case twice closed by commissions, has resurrected Netaji!

V. L. Talekar
Convenor
NSCBRF
Jaipur

'Secret papers' on Netaji in USSR

CALCUTTA, March 4 (HTC) The Soviet Government possesses certain secret documents which may shed new light on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Dr E. S. Yurlova of the Soviet Institute of Oriental Studies, Moscow, told HT here today that two Soviet scholars, who had been working on the Indian leader, had applied to the Government for permission to examine the documents. The documents were categorised as "top secret" and had never been made accessible. The scholars were however hopeful of the USSR National Archives agreeing to make available the documents in the context of the glasnost prevailing in the country.

The Soviet scholar said a seminar would be held in Moscow in September 1991 on Dr B. R. Ambedkar to mark his centenary. The seminar would be devoted to two main parts, Dr Ambedkar and the Indian national liberation movement, and Dr Ambedkar and the Scheduled Castes in post-Independence India.

"The advent of the Bahujan Samaj Party, with its leader Kanshi Ram breathing hatred, is a disturbing development for Indian democracy," she said. "It is surprising that the Left Government, now 65 years old in India, has failed to assimilate the Scheduled Castes. The Movement has in fact ignored the problems of the Scheduled Castes and this failure is now being exploited by leaders like Mr Ram."

Dr I. M. Semashko of the Soviet

Institute of Ethnography, USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow, said cultural and physical anthropologists of the Institute had not come across any evidence of foreign involvement in the recent developments in the Asian ethnic republics of the USSR.

During their field studies the scholars however could feel rising discontentment among the ethnic population against the economic injustices being meted out to them. The consensus of the scholars was that the events which had been rocking the republics had emanated from the economic crisis in the USSR. The development of the Asian republics within the Soviet system had raised ethnic aspirations and as the Soviet economy began its downward slide during the last two decades, the people's aspirations increased bringing about an open and often violent expression of dissatisfaction. The high unemployment rate also served to heighten the crisis. Nationalists who were ignored during the period of social and economic reconstruction found at last a niche for themselves and further ignited the violence.

It was also widely felt that once the economic problems were tackled and the political reform programme undertaken under perestroika was completed, "all the ethnic problems would be solved."

She said that among the myriad changes occurring in the USSR, the Soviet Government's attitude to ethnography had also changed.

Is Netaji in USSR?

NEW DELHI, May 17 (PTI) Is Netaji dead or alive? - the old controversy on Thursday took a fresh lease with a former parliamentarian suggesting that the freedom movement leader might be in Russia.

Prof Samar Guha, a close associate of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, told reporters that leaders of the National Front Government had assured him they would check up the reports with Moscow.

He had himself written to Mr Gorbachev in 1988 in this connection but failed to get a reply.

Prof Guha said he had written to Soviet leaders earlier too after a Calcutta based engineer revealed Netaji's presence in USSR in 1961. He had received similar reports from other sources as well, he added.

पत्रिका जयपुर, 13 जून 1990

नेताजी से संबंधित दस्तावेजों की जांच के आदेश

नई दिल्ली, 12 जून (यूयू)। प्रधानमंत्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह ने विदेश मंत्रालय से नेताजी सुभाष चंद्र बोस के लापता होने के बारे में सोवियत संघ, ब्रिटेन, अमेरिका और जापान में मिले गुप्त दस्तावेजों की जांच कराए।

सिंह ने यह बात 17 मई को सांसद प्रो. समर गुहा को लिखे पत्र में कही। राष्ट्रपति आर. वैकटरामन ने गुहा द्वारा उन्हें 25 मई को भेजे एक जापान के जवाब में कहा कि यह जापान प्रधानमंत्री के पास भेजा दिया गया है, जिन्हें इस बारे में पहले से जानकारी है।

11 W

Dump the ashes in

454
537
532

Japanese waters

By Prof. V. L. Talekar Convenor, NSCBRF Jaipur

India and Japan, the two largest democracies in Asia, stand today on threshold of a new era in their age-old friendship. This mutual relationship has grown significantly over the years, first in the cultural and political fields and more recently in the field of economic cooperation to the benefit of both the partners. Much has been said on the Indo-Japan economic co-operation and specially on Indian trade with Japan in these columns and elsewhere. The new Japanese Ambassador, Eijiro Noda, who presented his credentials at New Delhi only recently on 28th April, 1987, has already avowed that he intends to further promote friendly ties between Japan and India.

According to him there are good possibilities for expansion of Indo-Japanese cooperation and trade, despite the steep upvaluation of the Yen in the international market. Already there exists Japanese collaboration like Maruti-Suzuki and Toshiba-Anand in the fields of automobile and transistor cells manufacture. Also currently there is serious talk of collaboration in the field of electronic software manufacture. Planning Commission Member Abid Hussain has promised Indian manpower for this manufacture and huge Indian consumer market for the same. As the trends indicate, one can certainly look forward to further growth and strengthening of friendly ties, provided the soft corns are not stepped upon, for each country has its share of soft corns. One such corn for India is the issue of so-called "Netaji Ashes" reposing at Kenkoji temple in Japan.

It may be recalled that there has been immense Japanese cooperation in our freedom movement and Netaji's armed fight against the British during the Second World War. It was Japan that gave political shelter to the great nationalist and revolutionary Ras Behari Bose who finally became a Japanese national and married a Japanese lady. He was the president of Indian Independence League in South-East Asia and in June 1943 with Japanese assistance brought Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Germany to shoulder the responsibilities of Indian National Army and Azad Hind Government. Netaji's first broadcast in the South-Eastern War Theatre to his countrymen was from Tokyo Radio station on his arrival there. Apart from help during Netaji's war on the British and their allies, it was Japan again that helped Netaji to escape after his defeat in August 1945 and circulated the story of Netaji's so-called death in a plane crash at Taihaku (Taiwan) airport on 18th August '45. Not only that, to give credence to their story the

Japanese planted the so-called "Netaji Ashes" at Kenkoji temple. While doing all this in their sincere efforts to help Netaji to escape, the Japanese never could have dreamt that their alibi would be turned in future into "truth" by the two commissions, first Shah Nawaz Commission of 1956 appointed by Jawahar Lal Nehru and thereafter Khosla Commission of 1971, appointed by Indira Gandhi, both in succession being the first two Prime Minister of free India! But the fact remains that the planted remains of Netaji have been a source of headache to both the Government and their respective citizens.

Seal of death

In the above context, it will be remembered that there had been a concerted attempt during the Indira Gandhi regime to bring the remains from Kenkoji temple to India and install the same in Delhi with fanfare so that a "Seal of Death" may be put on Netaji once for all. The most unfortunate aspect of the sordid drama was that the leading part was played by an associate of Netaji and an ex-MP Sheel Bhadra Yajee. The project finally had to be given up, thanks to the timely action of another Netaji associate, a strong man from Haryana Uday Singh Dangl of JNA - and his group. When the author was recently in Delhi in connection with the statement of Natar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, made in the Rajya Sabha on 17th March '87 regarding fresh enquiry about Netaji, he got the wind of a similar second attempt in the offing. This Time strangely the plea is that it would create good will to immensely strengthen the Indo-Japanese ties of trade and technology cooperation. Unfortunately, for the interested parties the court judgement to be cited in the next para has now become a paramount blocker to any such move. A person or party doing so would thereby commit contempt of court and would have to face the resulting consequences.

It is now well established by a Rajasthan High Court Order, dated 18th Jan, 1980 on the S B Civil Writ Petition 902 of 1984 filed by late Pandit Nandlal Sharma, President of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation (NSCBRF) against the Union of India and others, that Netaji did not die in the so-called plane crash on 18th August 1945. In view of this court order about which enough has been written in these columns, there is no question of any ashes or remains of Netaji. It would, therefore, be in the best interest of both the countries to forget about the so-called "Netaji Ashes" at Kenkoji temple and to avoid any further complications dump the same in Japanese waters!

PATRIKA

SUNDAY MAGAZINE

May 17, 1987

NEW DELHI, SUNDAY JANUARY 31 1988

Japan offers to hand over Netaji's ashes

Hindustan Times Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Jan. 30 — Retired Japanese General Kama Kura (95), a close associate of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, has intimated through non-Governmental channels his anxiety about handing over the ashes of the commander of the Indian National Army (INA) to India.

Eminent social worker and chief editor of Prajatantra, an Imphal daily, Mr L. Joychandra Singh, has just returned from Tokyo with the message.

The ashes are being kept at the Renkoji Temple at Tokyo for the last 42 years. The old priest has died, his only son and daughter-in-law are now looking after the shrine.

Gen (Retd) Kama Kura has been trying to send the ashes since long, but the attitude in the Government circles has been lukewarm.

Mr Joychandra Singh had written to Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao in 1984 when he was the Foreign Minister. The reply was that the issue was controversial and hence he should strive to build up a national consensus amongst political parties to get the ashes back.

In December 1986 a letter to Mr Joychandra Singh from the External Affairs Ministry put forth the same line in response to his efforts to get matters moving.

According to Mr Joychandra Singh, the Japanese authorities and public men are wondering why the Indian Government was stalling the issue, hesitating to recognise Netaji's contribution to the freedom movement.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 8 1988 (7)

Preserved ashes are 'not Netaji's'

JAIPUR, Feb. 7 (PTI) — The Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation has contested the claim that the ashes preserved at Renkoji Temple in Japan were of the Commander of the Indian National Army.

Convener of the foundation V. L. Talekar, a close associate of Netaji, claimed here today that the story of Netaji's so-called death in a plane crash at Taihaku (Taiwan) on Aug. 18, 1945 was deliberately circulated to help him escape from Japan after its defeat.

He said to give credence to their story the Japanese planted the so-called Netaji ashes at Renkoji Temple in their "sincere effort to help him", Prof Talekar said.

The Japanese never could have dreamt that their false alibi would be turned into truth in future, he said.

Prof Talekar said Netaji did not die in the plane crash and the Government should initiate a fresh inquiry immediately into the disappearance of the national hero as directed by the Rajasthan High Court by its Jan. 18, 1986 order on a civil writ petition filed by president of the foundation late Nand Lal Sharma.

He said the foundation had already issued legal notices to both the Central Government and the Japanese ambassador in India to desist from bringing the so-called ashes to India.

Referring to a recent communication from retired Japanese General Kama Kura to an eminent social worker in Imphal Mr L. Joychandra Singh about his anxiety for handing over the ashes to India, Prof Talekar said the anxiety was useless.

'Ashes preserved in Japan not Netaji's'

JAIPUR, February 7 (PTI). The Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Research Foundation has contested the claim that the ashes preserved at Renkoji temple in Japan were those of the commander of the Indian National Army.

The convener of the foundation, Prof V. L. Talekar, a close associate of Netaji, claimed here today that the story of Netaji's so-called death in a plane crash at Taihaku (Taiwan) on August 18, 1945 was deliberately circulated to help him escape from Japan after its defeat.

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The Japanese never could have dreamt that their false alibi would be turned into truth in the future.

Prof Talekar said Netaji did not die in the plane crash and the government should initiate a fresh inquiry immediately into the disappearance of the national hero, as directed by the Rajasthan High Court by its January 18, 1986 order on a civil writ petition filed by the president of the foundation.

Monday, February 8, 1988 5

Ashes at Renkoji not of Bose: Foundation

JAIPUR, Feb 7 (PTI)

The Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Research Foundation has contested the claim that the ashes preserved at Renkoji temple in Japan were of the commander of the Indian National Army.

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389 455
Phone : 273532

ALL INDIA NETAJI MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

82, L. RYA CANJ, NEW DELHI - 110002

Ref. No. 2/26

Dated 30 Oct. 89

President

Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee

Ex-M. P.

Phone : 3323967

Dear Thiru N.P.Nayar,

Jai Hind. Many many thanks for letter of 23rd Oct. 89. I fully agree with you and appreciate your feelings, views and sentiments. I am enclosing herewith the copy of resolution and our appeal for your information and necessary action. The resolution and our circular answers your suggestions.

With best wishes and warm regards.

Yours sincerely,

Thiru N.P.NAYAR, (FF,TPH),
Azad Bhavan, Anchalumood,
Perinad P.O., QUILON-591601.

S.S. Yadava
(S.S.Yadava) Capt:INA
Gen: Secretary

21/5 1988/157/1988

Am. 12/12/1988

1378 526284/560986

Phone : 46-4116

JAYAREE Socio-cultural Bengali Monthly

Office : 20A, PRINCE GOLAM MAHOMMAD ROAD, CALCUTTA-700 026

Minist Founder-Editor A. LEELA ROY

नई दिल्ली, New Delhi - 110001

Editor

Sunil Das

Managing Editor

Bijoy Nag

Dated AUGUST 14, 1990

22 AUG 1990

NEW DELHI

डाक संख्या
Shree Viswanath Pratap Singh

Prime Minister Of India

Govt of India

7743/EAD/90

New Delhi : 110001

9/10

1791022/1990
9/10

Dear Shree Viswanath Pratap Singh ,

This relates to your letter dated May 17, 1990, to prof Samar Guha regarding " . .high level investigation into secret documents on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, believed to be available in the USSR, UK, Japan & the USA."

Nothing has appeared in the Press since then from the Ministry of External Affairs whom you entrusted to deal with this matter of national importance. We will be too glad to know whether the concerned Ministry could find time to contact the governments of the countries mentioned in your letter referred to above.

Prof Samar Guha is a colleague and a younger brother to me. I had the privilege of personal acquaintance with Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as a co-worker after I had come out of

Coord
19/9

Handwritten signature/initials

182/11
for M.E.A.
DS(EA)

JAYASREE Socio-cultural Bengali Monthly

Office : 20A, PRINCE GOLAM MAHOMMAD ROAD, CALCUTTA-700 026

Founder-Editor : LEELA ROY

Estd : 1931

Editor

Sunil Das

Managing Editor

Bijoy Nag

Dated

-2-

incarcerations between the years 1931 to 1938 and thereafter till his disappearance in January, 1941.

Your Government have given the 'Right to Information' to the citizens which is high on the list of rights of the Citizens. In keeping with ^{this} postulate it is only ^{met} & ^{proper} that ~~the~~ National Front Govt should come out ^{with} all documents in their possession, hitherto unpublished, in regard to ~~the~~ disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

With hearty good wishes.

Yours Sincerely,

Sunil Das
(Sunil Das)

Editor, JAYASREE & Ex M.L.A.

4783- JS(EA)/90
16/8/90

MOST IMMEDIATE

प्रधान मन्त्री कार्यालय
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

(562)

नई दिल्ली-110011
NEW DELHI-110011

(20)

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter which PM has received from Col. P.K. Sehgal. We have checked our papers but, unfortunately, have no record of the meeting between PM and the **f**reedom **f**ighters.

We would be grateful for MEA's urgent comments.

I have informed our Embassy of the enclosure to this NO Note, in view of the imminence of Aug. 18. (Copy of teletax placed below).

Shankar
(Meera Shankar)
Director

NR
12/8

JS(EA), MEA

PMO NO NO 800/8/C/1/90-POL dt 13.8.90

We may send comments to PMO as done to Embassy.

JS(EA) O.R. *Shankar*

20/8

JS(EA)

563

CRASH CRASH CRASH

TELEFAX MESSAGE

FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

TO : INDEMBASSY TOKYO

AMBASSADOR FROM DIRECTOR(EA)

FAXED BELOW IS TEXT OF LETTER ADDRESSED TO
PM BY COL. P.K. SAHGAL, CHAIRMAN, NETAJI RESEARCH
BUREAU, CALCUTTA(.)

2. YOU ARE WELL AWARE OF OUR STAND ON THIS
SUBJECT(.) GOVERNMENT HAVE RECEIVED FROM TIME TO TIME
VARIOUS PROPOSALS CONCERNING THIS QUESTION(.) THERE
IS AS YET NO CONSENSUS AMONG THE DIFFERING VIEWS HELD
AT PRESENT ON THE SUBJECT(.) GOVERNMENT ARE OF THE
VIEW THAT A CONSENSUS MUST BE DEVELOPED ON THIS
SUBJECT IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE ASHES TO BE BROUGHT
BACK TO INDIA(.) EMBASSY MAY WISH TO REITERATE THIS
POSITION(.)

3. WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO TALK WITH YOU
TELEPHONICALLY SINCE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON IN THIS
REGARD BUT HAVE FAILED TO DO SO(.) HENCE, THIS
TELEFAX(.) RGDS(.)

Nirupama Rao

(Nirupama Rao)
Director(EA)
17/8/1990

171045
BBB 2 pages only

O/C

(564)

COL P. K. SAHGAL
Chairman, Netaji Research
Bureau,
CUTTACKA

15/241, CIVIL LINES,
KANPUR - 208 001
Telephone : 211393
9th July, 1990

Dear Mr Prime Minister,

On behalf of the I.N.A Jawans and officers, I would like to convey our heartfelt gratitude to you for the kind assurance given by you to the Freedom Fighter delegation lead by Shri Sheel Bhadar Yajee, which met you on the 3rd July to the effect that Netaji's ashes would be brought to India with full honours.

In this connection I would like to bring to your kind notice that Subas Bose Academy, Tokyo have invited Shri Sheel Bhadar Yajee, Dr Sisir Bose, Dr Col Lakshmi Sahgal, I and some others to be present at a ceremony to be held at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo on the 18th August to pay our homage to Netaji's Ashes. In this invitation they have pointedly mentioned that 'This would be our last ceremony'. This clearly indicates that the Ashes could NO longer be kept in their present Resting Place.

It would take sometime for the government of India to make proper arrangements to bring the Ashes to India with due due honour, therefore interim arrangements have to be made to keep them in Tokyo. Mr Sheel Bhadar Yajee, Dr Sisir Bose and other friends whom I have consulted concur with my view that Netaji's Ashes should be kept with due honour in the Indian Embassy in Tokyo till such time that they can be brought to India.

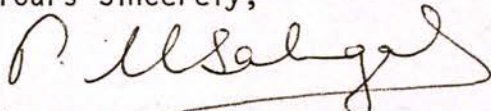
I sincerely hope that you will please accede to our request in this regard and issue necessary instructions to the Indian Ambassador in Tokyo.

On the 18th of August we would like to carry these ashes ceremoniously to Indian Embassy.

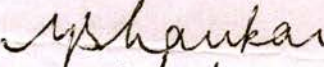
All my friends and I would be most grateful if immediate action is taken in the matter.

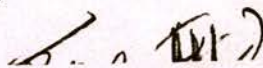
With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely,


(COL P.K. SAHGAL)

with pre. ops pl.


26/7/



7.5.56
S. S. S. S.

Statement by Mr. Juichi Nakamura,
No. 27, Nichome Sakura Machi,
Fukuoka City, recorded on 30-5-1956 at
12-45 P.M. at Tokyo.

I first went to Formosa with my family about 20 years ago. I stayed there till April 1946 when all the Japanese were evacuated from Formosa. I used to work in a commercial firm but as I knew English my services were requisitioned from time to time by the Government ^{when} ~~with~~ any distinguished visitor or tourist came to Taiwan. I was employed in the Foreign Office in Taiwan for about one year before the end of the war.

I knew Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose well. In all, I met him about 4 times. During that time, all the planes bound for Tokyo used to touch at Taihoku. The last time when I met Netaji (i.e. the time before this accident took place) was, I think, in the same year, i.e. 1945. On that visit he stopped at Taihoku while on his way to Tokyo for one or two days. After his visit to Tokyo he again stopped at Taihoku for two or three days. We had dinner together on that occasion, at the Railway Hotel where he used to stay every time he passed through Taipeh. In my diary which I used to maintain at that time, I made entries about the date and time of his arrival but unfortunately

all these records were lost when I was being evacuated from Formosa.

I remember clearly that on 18th August 1945, the accident took place in which Netaji was involved. At about 5-30 P.M. on 18th August 1945, a Military Officer came to my house in a car and asked me to accompany him to the hospital. I left for the hospital. On arrival there, I was taken inside by a military soldier. When I entered the room, I saw Captain Yoshimi, the Chief Medical Officer of the Hospital and he told me that the person who was lying on the bed was His Excellency Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The name of the hospital was Nammon Rikugun ^{BYOIN} Buyin (Nammon means South). The room in which Netaji was lying on the bed was a large room approximately 90 ft in length. ^{long - 60 ft wide} The portion in which Netaji was lying was screened off. In the same room at some distance from him were lying three Japanese officers who had been injured in the same accident. At that time, I thought that they were members of the crew of the crashed plane. When I first saw Netaji, the whole of his face and head were bandaged. The only portions of his face that were visible were his eyes, mouth and nose. Since the whole of his body from neck downwards was covered by a thin cloth, I could not see if it was

South gate
60 F.T.
60 F WIDE
45 FT

bandaged. I could see both his hands which were bandaged. In the same room I saw Col. Rehman. His bed was about 3 ft. away from Netaji's bed. I came and stood by Netaji's bed. Netaji was saying something in a low tone. I requested Col. Rehman to come nearer and listen to what he was saying. I remember the first words that Netaji uttered were:-

" A few more of my men are coming after me. Please take care of them when they come to Formosa. "

About half an hour or one hour after this, he asked Col. Rehman " Where is General Shidei?" I did not know where General Shidei was. The Japanese Medical Officer present there said that General Shidei was being taken care of in another hospital. I had no acquaintance with General Shidei before.

The 3rd statement which Netaji made was that he had a feeling that blood was rushing to his head from his waist. He made this statement about 30 or 40 minutes afterwards.

Every time that I saw Netaji's mouth commencing to move, I used to request Col. Rehman to come near and to listen carefully to what he was saying. I cannot remember what the doctor did when Netaji said that blood was coming to his head but I think he gave some treatment. I cannot

remember accurately. Soon after 9 or 9-30 P.M. the last words that Netaji spoke were:-

"I want to sleep".

During all this time, not a word of complaint either of pain or suffering came from his lips. The Japanese officers at the other end of the room were groaning with pain and crying out that they may be killed rather than continue to endure their suffering. This composure of Netaji surprised all of us.

After this, he started snoring. This went on for about 10 minutes or may be longer, I cannot remember correctly. Then his head fell forward towards the chest and that was the last. The doctor told us that he was dead. At the time when Netaji breathed his last, the following were present:-

Dr. Yoshimi.

Col. Rehman.

6 or 7 soldiers. (These included some medical orderlies.)

and myself.

There was no nurse or anybody else in that room at that time.

After Netaji died, all the Japanese ^{STAND} fell in one line and saluted Netaji's body. Col. Rehman came and ~~stood~~ ^{knelt} by Netaji's bed and prayed for about 5 or 6 minutes. After 5 or 6 minutes, he opened the window of that room and Col. Rehman prayed again for about 10 minutes looking towards the sky and then he came to his own bed and laid down.

31.5.58

J. H. Nakamura

10 or 20 minutes after we had finished praying to Netaji's body, I left for my home. The next day I came to the hospital in the afternoon. It might have been 1 or 2 P.M. When I returned to the hospital, I found that Netaji's body had been put in a wooden coffin. The relative position of Netaji's bed and Col. Rehman's bed, the coffin and the beds of Japanese officers is shown in the attached sketch plan of the room which is marked exhibit A. When I returned to the hospital, I found Netaji's body had been put in the coffin and moved about 10 ft. away from his bed. The screen which had been originally put to isolate Netaji and Col. Rehman was also removed. When I went to the hospital on the second day, I found one Japanese sentry standing at the entrance to the room where Netaji's coffin was kept. The sentry did not have a rifle. I saw two Japanese Officers standing inside the room. I saw Col. Rehman on his bed. On the second day, i.e. on the 19th of August in the afternoon when I returned to the hospital, Col. Rehman told me that he had had discussions with senior Japanese officers and they had decided to cremate his body. On the third day, i.e. on the 20th August, the body was taken to the crematorium. We arrived at the crematorium from the hospital at about noon time. It took us about 20 minutes by car to re

the crematorium. From the hospital we went to the crematorium in two or three cars. The coffin was carried in an ambulance car. We deliberately did not encourage a large number of persons to go to the crematorium as news about Netaji's death was kept a secret and was known only to the high ranking Military officers and no body else. I do not remember the names of other persons who went in those two or three cars to the crematorium. I only remember the name of Major Nagatomo and Col. Rehman who went to the crematorium. I do not remember the other persons with me in the car, but I think I was not alone, may be I was in the same car ^{with} as Col. Rehman. At that time since all of us were in a confused state of mind, I cannot remember things clearly. I cannot say exactly the number of officers who went to the crematorium in those 2 or 3 cars. In all there were 5 or 6 civilians and Military officers in those 2 or 3 cars. From the hospital, we went to the crematorium direct without going to any other place. At the crematorium we found that about 15 soldiers were already there. On arrival at the crematorium, the soldiers took off the coffin and carried it to the furnace. The crematorium was a large sized hall with furnace in the middle.

The hall, as far as I remember, was approximately 16 ft. by 16 ft. as shown in sketch B and the furnace marked I therein. From the entrance of the hall, the soldiers carried the coffin on their shoulders inside and placed it in the sliding tray in the furnace and after closing the door of the furnace, they came out and told us that they had placed the coffin in position in the furnace. The soldiers went out and we, who were waiting outside went inside the hall. Col. Rehman was the in front. I was next to him. The other gentlemen totalling about 5 followed us. We went and stood in front of the furnace ~~marked 1~~ marked 2. All of us stayed there and saluted. After paying our respects, we went to the back side of the furnace where we found the priest standing with burning incense sticks (aggarbattis) in his hand. He wanted to hand over a stick to Col. Rehman but as he could not hold it, I took the stick and placed it in Col. Rehman's hands. Col. Rehman held it between the edge of his palms since he could not hold it in his fingers and placed it in the hole which was located at the rear of the ~~entrance~~ ⁱⁿ the hall and everybody else followed likewise. After finishing this ceremony, Col.

furnace

Rehman came out of the hall. I followed and so did the others. I went home in a separate car and I think Col. Rehman went back to the hospital. As we came out of the entrance of the crematorium, the caretaker told us to come there the following day, at about noon time. The next day, i.e. on the 21st August at about noon time, I arrived at the crematorium. Col. Rehman was there already. At the crematorium besides Col. Rehman, I saw about 15 soldiers and some officers. In all, there were about 20 persons present. One of the employees of the crematorium asked us to come in. Col. Rehman led; I was next to him; 2 or 3 high-ranking Japanese officers followed. As on the previous day, we went and stood in front of the door of the furnace and saluted. The employee opened the furnace door, pulled out the sliding tray. The bones though completely burnt, retained their shape and form. Then some body brought a 10" cubical box, made of cedar wood and of ^{light} cream colour. A special kind of chop-sticks about 10" long is used for picking up burnt bones and ashes in crematoriums. This chop-stick was brought by a priest attached to a temple nearby the crematorium. As Col. Rehman's hands were bandaged he could not hold the stick properly

Light

Col. Rehman did the same way 2 times.

helped him to pick the burnt bones and ashes of Netaji by holding the lower part of the chop-stick and picked up the burnt bones and ashes while Col. Rehman's hands touched the upper parts of the same stick. In this way, I picked up the burnt bones and ashes ~~from the throat bone and later from the lower jaw bone.~~ first from the throat bone and later from the lower jaw bone. After that I picked up more burnt bones and ashes. A Japanese Military officer also picked up some burnt bones and ashes. These burnt bones and ashes were collected from different parts of the body and placed in the wooden urn which was thus filled up. In the process of picking up the ashes, the bones which had so far retained their shape had lost it. After the box was full, the employee of the crematorium carried it outside to the hall. We followed him. Just outside the entrance of the crematorium, the box was placed on a table. Then the soldiers installed it and covered it in a white cloth as is generally done when collecting ashes of Japanese. We wanted Col. Rehman to carry the urn from a cloth slung round his neck but since the back of his neck was burnt and bandaged, he could not do so and requested me to put the cloth slung round my neck and carry the ashes. I did

From there, I carried the ashes in this manner straight to the temple. From the crematorium to the hospital, Col. Rehman and I went in the same car. It took about 25 minutes to reach there. The temple was located near the hospital. The name of the temple was Nishi (West) Honganji temple. It is the biggest temple in Formosa. Only Col. Rehman and I went to the temple. We handed over the urn containing the ashes to the head priest of the temple. When we entered the temple, I saw another white urn near the shrine. On asking the priest I learnt that that urn contained the ashes of General Shidei. The priest asked me whose ashes we had brought. I told him that I could not tell him the name as I did not have the permission to tell him but I told him that those were very valuable ashes of a person of a higher status than General Shidei. I requested the priest to keep those ashes at a higher level than General Shidei's and to put new flowers every morning. After handing over the ashes to the priest, Col. Rehman and I left the temple. I went to my house and Col. Rehman to the hospital. The hospital to which Col. Rehman returned was the same hospital in which I had seen him fir
~~the~~

12-

I returned to the temple two or three hours later to satisfy myself whether the priest had carried out my request. When I went there, I found that he had made arrangements exactly in accordance with my request. I then returned to the hospital and reported to Col. Rehman that Netaji's ashes had been installed properly. Then Col. Rehman and I went together to the temple to see the urn. Col. Rehman knelt before the ashes and prayed. After that, I returned with him to the hospital gate. Col. Rehman seemed satisfied with the arrangements that had been made for the safe custody of Netaji's ashes.

Sometime later in September I met Col. Rehman in Hokuto Hot Spring Town Branch of Nammon Hospital. Hokuto Branch of the hospital is nearly 40 minutes drive by car from Nammon Hospital. At the time when I met Col. Rehman on this occasion, he was very much better and in good health. We had tea and cakes together. That is the last time I met Col. Rehman.

Since that day I have not been interrogated by any body regarding Netaji. I did not give anything

about him in the papers either.

Question by Shri Maitra. Do you know what happened to the ashes?

Reply: I understand that the ashes were brought over by Col. Rehman to Japan.

Question: What was the object of keeping the ashes in the Honganji temple?

Reply: The idea was that it was a suitable place for keeping the ashes till such time as Col. Rehman took them to Japan.

Question: What are you doing now?

Reply: I now lead a retired life; occasionally I teach English to school boys.

Question by the Chairman: When you came before this Committee, were you asked by any body to appear?

Reply: On 27th of May I received a long telegram from the Foreign Office asking me to come to Tokyo to give evidence before the Cttee. I replied to them the same day and also sent a telegram to my daughter telling her that I was coming to Tokyo.

Interpreted by Mr. Rahman.
Admitted Correct.

Mr. Nakamura,
Interpreter.

*

Note: This witness could not be traced by the Japanese Foreign Office and it was by chance that his daughter, now Mrs. Kojima, one day rang up office and told us that her father was very keen to meet the Committee but that since he was too old, he might not be able to come to Tokyo. The Committee, thereupon requested the Foreign Office to find out from Mr. Nakamura if it would be possible for him to come to Tokyo failing which the Committee would go to his home town in Kyushu to meet him. Mr. Nakamura is 71 years old and he decided to come and appear before the Committee himself.

Statement by Mrs. Makato
Yamamoto, Fukuoka Ken-Omta,
25 -Yamano Owey Cho, Japan,
recorded on 25th May 1956
at Tokyo at 5 P.M.

During the war, I was working a clerical capacity in the Communication Bureau at Taihoku Airport. One of my duties was to serve tea to V.O.Ps. When Mr. Chandra Bose passed through Taihoku aerodrome during the Greater Asia Conference, I had served tea to him. I did not serve tea this time when Mr. Chandra Bose came with General Shidei. I know of the plane crash which I saw from a long distance. I did not go near the plane, nor did I go to the hospital.

Interpreted by Mr.

Admitted correct.

एकता !

विश्वास !!

4801-JS(6A)/60

17/8/60 बलिदान !!!

AKHIL BHARTIYA AZAD HIND SANGH

(579)



✓
JS(6A)

अ.भा. आज़ाद हिन्द संघ



12-8-90.

दिनांक : १९८८

निवास अध्यक्ष :—

२१६, प्रेमपुरी, मेरठ शहर ।

(उ० प्र०) २५०००२

सचिवालय :—

११२४/३, सत नगर, करोल बाग,

नई दिल्ली-५, दूरभाष : ५६४७१६

Sh. Sheel Bhadra Yajee,
Chairman, Freedom Fighters Assoc.
Jantar Mantar,
NEW DELHI.

Respected Sir,

Jai Hind,

We have come to know from some reliable sources that you are planning to go to Japan alongwith some I.N.A men to bring the alleged fake ashes of Netaji.

We may point out that the concocted story of Air Crash of Netaji's plane was fabricated and both the enquiry commissions of Shahnawaz and Khosla had allready been rejected by the worthy Janta Government by the then Prime Minister Sh. Morarji Desai and Rajasthan Highcourt have given a verdict that a fresh Judicial Enquiry be set up by the Govt. to find out about the disappearance thereafter.

We could not follow the motivation of yours about bringing the fake ashes and mislead the Indian Public and play with the sentiments of Crores of Indians and Fans of Netaji.

You are wellaware of the facts that were brought before the Government and the Hon'ble High Court of Rajistha, in view of which Government have rejected both the commissions and Sh. V.P. Singh Hon'ble Prime Minister have also ordered the External Ministry to find out the facts and study the documents lying in Soviet Russia, Japan, Germany and other coutries relating to the disappearance of Netaji.

Moreover we may lay that if you are adement in this very consipiracy, it will be an insult to the worthy Government and shall be cotemptof Court and a foul play with the sentiments of Indian Public and Fans of Netaji and there will be dire consequences for

Contd. on 2.

एकता !

विश्वास !!

बलिदान !!!

AKHIL BHARTIYA AZAD HIND SANGH



अ.भा. आजाद हिन्द संघ



दिनांक १९८

निवास अध्यक्ष :—

२१६, प्रेमपुरी, मेरठ शहर ।
(उ० प्र०) २५०००२

सचिवालय :—

११२४/३, सत नगर, करोल बाग,
नई दिल्ली-५, दूरभाष : ५६४७१६

(2)

yourself and your associates for which you shall be very much responsible and no other.

With regards,

Yours Faithfully,

(D.K.JAIN.) President,
All India Azad Hind Sangh,
216, Prem Puri, Meerut City. (U.P)

Copy to:—

- Sh. R.Venkataraman, Hon'ble President of India, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi, with the request to restrain above Addressed Sh.Yajee alongwith his team to proceed to Japan and bring the alleged fake Ashes.
2. Sh.Vishwanath Pratap Singh Ji, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Race Course Road, New Delhi with the request to restrain Sh. Yajee to proceed to Japan for this Foul Play.
3. Sh. I.K.Gujral, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, Govt. of India, G,13, Maharani Bagh, New Delhi for information and use his good office to stop this foul game.

SANKAR SANYAL

Shri I.K. Guzral,
External Affairs
Minister, India, New Delhi-11.

5006-55/EA/12
28/8
Dated, Jalpaiguri, the 24th August, 1990.

(584)
PHONE-136
TEMPLE STREET
JALPAIGURI-735101
INDIA

Dear Shri Guzral,

6870/EA/120
13/9

re: 24/8
JS(EA)
5-3718/EA/190
28/8
re: Letter dated: 9 JUNE, 1990 and earlier - the Reply of which are absent conspicuously, and copies of letters dated: 14 AUGUST, dated: 28 JULY, dated: 20 July and dated: 24 AUGUST 1990 addressed to Shri R. Venkataraman, President, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Prime Minister, ~~Shri R. Venkataraman, President~~ and Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma, Vice-President; Chairman, Rajya Sabha respectively in the context of TELEGRAMS dated, the 11th MAY, 1990 addressed to You and to Prime Minister, India followed by letters, *enclosed*.

DS(EA)
h
24/8
Yadav
You are keeping silent over the above stated letter dated: 9 JUNE 1990 till date in the context of my telegram dated, Jalpaiguri, the 11th MAY, 1990 followed by letters apropos your "sudden" pronouncement in the floor of Lok Sabha re: bringing to India, the "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, kept at Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, Japan. This pronouncement of yours regarding the "Fake Ashes" of Netaji is the THIRD ATTEMPTS which should have to be 'nipped in the bud' by the late Shrimate Indira Nehru Gandhi, Prime Minister, India and her successor the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajib Gandhi, because, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has never died at Taiku Air Field "Plane Crash" in Taipei in the year 1945.

Both you and the Prime Minister, India, Shri V.P. Singh are "making" statements without least 'intention' it seems, to "favour" me with your replies my above stated Telegrams of MAY 11 followed by letters are looking forward with interest.

You are a freedom fighter and previously your prompt reply to my letters as the then I & B Minister, India is a case in point of your amiable nature. And as the Ambassador of India in the USSR your prompt action in the context of letter and cable I have had the cause to write to say about Economic collaboration in the affairs of Phyto-Chemical Industry here in West Bengal in and around the Tea Gardens of Duars and Terai has shown your responsiveness. And in recent time the dynamic action in the International Crisis your 'visting' the USSR, the USA, the West Asian Countries are upto the mark of a Minister for External Affairs, India to his best to resolve the Crisis. But, what about the said Telegrams dated: 11 MAY 1990 that followed with letters not to indulged in bringing here in India the "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhas Ch. Bose ? Not only your amiable nature but as a freedom fighter you must not be dead silent over my correspondances apropos of "Fake Ashes".

With all the good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Enclo. As stated.
cc to:

S. Sanyal.
S. SANYAL. 24/8/90

(582)

14 AUGUST 1990.

Dear Shri Venkataraman,

re: Letter dated, Jalpaiguri, the 20th JULY 1990 pertaining to fresh attempt which is in the offing about bringing to India Fake Ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose kept at Renkoji Temple in Tokyo in JAPAN with its enclosures and (1) Memorandum submitted by Freedom Fighters from West Bengal on AUGUST 10 1990 apropos of the demand of Rs.1000/- per month insted of Rs.750/-, (2) Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister "meeting" on AUGUST 11 1990 and (3) the very copy of letter of ~~(x AUGUST)~~ 28 JULY & 6 AUGUST addressed to Shri V. P. Singh, Prime Minister, India

In reference with above stated letter dated, Jalpaiguri, the 20th JULY 1990 with its enclosures pertaining to "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose may I remind you inmost humbly - what prevents you in sending few line in reply to it ? Your keeping silent over it is as much unfortunate as that of the present Prime Minister of India Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh alongside ~~sh~~ his colleauge Shri Indra Kumer Guzral External Affairs Minister of India.

You as the President of Indian Union will voice in AIR to night and as a freedom fighter himself would you speak about the freedom fighters "any thing" that would be a redress of the "plight" they (the freedom fighters) are subject^{ed} to caused due to Spiral Rising of Daily Necessities of Life, but for the helpfull and adorable attitude of the Government and of which you are in the highest Office. Should they be subjected to humiliation and are being served with casual, callous and perfunctory replies in the context of their correspondences with the Government. When, it may kindly be noted that here in our State of West Bengal save and except the said freedom fighters "All" are being provided with reasonable pensions and in recent time the "enhancement" of pension to MLAs and MLCs are under "active consideration" and when there at the Centre the MPs and all others are 'enjoing' a good sum of Money!

And as regard the "fake ashes" of Netaji Subhas Bose - who has never died at Taiku Air Field Plane Crash in Taipai the enclosed copy of letter dated: 28 JULY 1990 I have had the obvious reasons to say to Write to Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Prime Minister, India, you may kindly introspect your "Quest" about true truth and the very visit of yours - Ullan Battur, the capital of Outter Mongollia apropos of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose; and the rest I have had the cause to spell out. May I also put before you the very "question" regarding the sum of Rs. 118/- ~~xxx~~ Crore of INA the GOI has kept and the "interet" that has acc-rued till now ?

Contn.....2/

14 AUGUST 1990.

...accrued till now ?

And with a fervant request not to belittle the genuine freedom fighters and their correspondences addressing you - the President of India and the Council of Ministers, obviously to know the truth about. Rather their quest for truth and the urge for decent livelihood for eaking out and to face the decadance, the rampant corruption and the very rising of daily necessities of life, inmost squarely and beautifully at this stage of their life's end. Most of them are already dead and many of us are on the verge of it. So, as a freedom fighter it would be expected of you the Reply proper at your earliest and, in the meantime, let us wish with "headt and heart" that India and in particular the trunkated Bengal and Punjab and the rest which are in acutely in Crisis succeeded after Crisis in the midst of International, be over.

With all the good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sa/--

S. SANYAL.

Shri R. Venkataraman,
President of India,
Rastropati Bhavan,
NEW DELHI - 110 004.

Regd. Letter. Enclo. As stated.

cc to: Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma,
Vice- President, India,
Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh,
Prime Minister, India
Shri Indrajit Kumar Guzral,
External Affairs Minister, India among others...&....

As stated in the letter dated: 24 AUGUST
1990 this copy is now being sent to Shri I.K. Guzral, External
Affairs Minister, India, New Delhi - 110011.

S. Sanyal
S. Sanyal.

24.8.90.

28 JULY 1990.

Dear Sri Singh,

re: Value oriented politics instead of the expediency apropos of bringing down to Indian soil Fake Ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose; and general statements of yours before News Agency and that of External Affairs Minister: I.K.Guzral before leaving for the USSR in Parliament, but keeping silent in the context of my Telegrams on MAY 11, 1990 and following letters to you and to Sri Guzral.

In reference with above, enclosed herewith, please find, copy of my letter dated, Jalpaiguri, the 20th July, 1990 I have written to Sri R. Venkataraman, President, India for your kind perusal.

Your keeping silent over above stated Telegram followed by letters and making statement only before "mass medias" is prone to political expediency. And a veteran freedom fighter in the cause of National Struggle for Independence against the hard British Imperialism, not only myself but all other truthfull people would appreciate your Value Oriented Politics. I am sorry to observe this hard reality in the absence of your Reply. ~~From~~ And it would be anybody's guess why External Affairs Minister Sri I.K.Guzral made suddenly in the floor of the Parliament re: the said bringing about "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose kept at Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, Japan, -before "going to the USSR and, perhaps with a view to the ensuing "visit" of Mr. Mikhail Gorbachov, President of the Soviet Union and Secretary General of CPSU to JAPAN. Is it only to exonerate the USSR from such "Blame" advocated by "some" re: Netaji Subhas's "presence" at Soviet Union? Whence, it should be noted that after some "words" intimated to Sri R. Venkataraman, President, India by Prof. Samar Guha, Ex-M.P., the President himself, ventured, perhaps to visit Outer Mongolia in quest of true truth regarding Netaji's presence, when it is not so a fact as much as it was not a "fact" that "Shadhu of Solmari was Netaji Subhas the "fact" for which erstwhile Prime Minister of India Shri Lal Bahadur Sastri as the then Home Minister, India came here Alipurduar to ascertain the "true facts" regarding Netaji Subhas and this fool of a man, I told him categorically that "Sadhu of Solmari" is not Netaji Subhas Bose at all. But, all these and heaven too didn't make this Statement by the Government of India that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had never died at Taiku Air Crash till date.

Whatever might be the positive "idea" regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose since the days of late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, the Government should now spell out the truth about the very Plane Crash at Taiku Air Field and the "death" of Netaji- which has never happened and then only a through-going "fool proof" enquiry be made regarding the said "Fake Ashes" kept at Renkoji Temple (and which have in recent time devastated by fire) at Tokyo in JAPAN. This kind of VALUE ORIENTED Politics should be 'work out' by you the present Prime Minister, India and, then you shall really enjoy the premiership and would be able to come out of the successive Crisis facing you and the Government day -in-day-out in the context of lying with each other for more power, Position and Fame, leaving aside the "real politics" indolence away with rampant corruptions, spiral rising of daily necessities of life etc.

However, I would be looking forward with interest your Reply on my above stated Telegrams dated, Jalpaiguri, the 11th MAY, 1990 at the back of this and in the context of letters to you and to Sri I.K.Guzral, External Affairs Minister, India followed the said Telecommunications.

I am now old and infirm and recently suffered extensive Myocardial Infraction (Heart Attack) besides, the T.B. (since imprisonment under British Rule as also in abscondance period) Paralysis in lower limbs, besides other ailments and awaiting Death at any time, whence, it should be noted that the very politics of expediency which our Chief Minister, Sri Jyoti Basu, West Bengal (who had spelt out categorically that the "politics" they- the undivided CPI had had the cause to entertain against Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose,

was all together misnomer) is following has not sanctioned as the very pension(enhanced) of Rs. 300/- per month from the State's exchequer- which when are the cases with almost all the State in Indian Union, have not been sanctioned till date. And so it has been the behaviour pattern with Dr.Ashim Das Gupta, Finance & Development Minister, West Bengal his camp follower. We the veteran freedom fighters who are undoubtedly the constant and enduring "friends" of this Left Front Government are too much unhappy and resentfull about the very attitude of Sri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister, West Bengal. And, it is on this context our demand of making it per with the Political sufferers Pension to Freedom Fighters from the Central Revenue of Rs. 1000/- per month instead of Rs. 750/- P.m. which are now being 'enjoyed' to survive in these hard days and the very Life Style of a few affluents apropos. But, alas, you are keeping silent on this count too.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/---

(S. Sanyal)

Sri Vishwanath Pratap Singh,
Prime Minister, India,
South Block,
New Delhi - 110011.

- CC. to: Sri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister, West Bengal, Writers' Buildings',
Calcutta-1,
1. Shri R. Venkataraman, President, India, Rastrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi - 110 004,
 2. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, Vice-President, India; Chairman,
Rajya Sabha, Parliament House, New Delhi - 110 001,
 3. Shri I. K. Guzral, External Affairs Minister, India,
New Delhi - 110011,
 4. Prof. Nural Hassan, Governor, West Bengal, Raj Bhvan, Cal.-1.

As stated in the letter dated: 24 AUGUST 1990
this copy is now being sent to Shri I.K. Guzral, External Affairs
Minister, India, New Delhi - 110011.

S. Sanyal,
S. SANYAL.

24.8.90.

Dated, Jalpaiguri, the 20th JULY, 1990.

Dear Shri Venkataraman,

"Our life is at once an enquiry after truth and knowledge a secefrice and service."

&

re: Attempt is again being made in brining down to Indian soil FAKE ASHES from Tokyo JAPAN of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose kept at Renkoji Temple and Telegram dated, Jalpaiguri, 11MAY, 1990 in reference with Home Ministry's letter No.4/31/88-PP(P).

The present government headed by Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh is facing crisis and keeping silent over above stated Telegram apropos of bringing down to Indian soil the fake ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose kept at Renkoji Temple at Tokyo in Japan - afresh.

Unfortunately, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh the present Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister, Shri I.K. Ghzral are both keeing silent (over) to my above said Telegrams (dated 11 May, 1990.) I am enclosing herewith for your kind perusal the said copy of my Telegrams to them; and enclosing herewith for the same purpose the copy of my letter dated, Jalpaiguri, the 14th May, 1990 I have written to sa to Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Prime Minister, India. It will speak for itselfes.

And a veteran freedom fighter at this fag end of life - cause more due to recent "Heart Attack" (Myocardial Infracrion) and was rushed to General Hospital, is looking(forward) painfully the attitude and very behaviour patterns of "the tough politician" quarling chield like to have fame, power & position in the government and coming out with tall talks and promise after promises with no or little tangible values - the mass of people are suffering for various reasons including spiral rise of daily necessities of life, nob to speak of, the impoverish and really affected veteran freedom fighters at their fag end of life in the age group of 75 - 85 years old. And, when, they have the reasons to write to say to you and to other concerned not to treat them awfully as in sending them perfunctories reply and in vital cases to remain dead silent. Freedom Fighters must not be a subject to humiliation rather, government should be respectfull and adorable to them - when they have had the cause to say to write - things, obviously.

Instead of your perfunctory reply, this fool of a man - vetrar freedom fighter would appreciate the reply proper (from) the highest Of the President of India inmost immediately and, in the meantime, with all the good wishes,

Yours sincerely,
Sd/- S. SANYAL.

Shri R. Venkataraman,
President of India,
Rastropati Bhavan, New Delhi-110 004.

Enclo. As stated. cc to: Shri I.K. Guzral, External Affairs Minister, India, New Delhi-11 as stated in the letter dated: 24 AUGUST 1990.

S. Sanyal.
S. Sanyal.

Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma,
Vice-President, India; Chairman
Rajya Sabha, NEW DELHI - 110001.

587
24 AUGUST 1990.

Dear Dr. Sharma,

re: Miserable plights of Freedom Fighters in general and the "Fake Ashes" of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose kept at Renkoji Temple at Tokyo in Japan and which is again being attempted to bringing in India.

Apropos of above stated 'miserable plights' of freedom fighters who are not in the government, nor, for that matter, the MPs and/or MLAs/MLCs but have had the marginal benefit of eaking out with Rs.750/- per month and not Rs.1000/- per month (as it the case with those who were in Andaman Cellular Jail or in abroad) since since November 14, 1990 from the Central Revenue (and in such cases as in the State of West Bengal almost all the freedom fighters are not being provided with Rs.300/- per month - the enhanced pension to Political Sufferers) are the case in points. And this matter of facts I have had the cause obvious to say to write to Shri R. Venkataraman, President of India, besides, the very "affairs" re: bringing in India from Renkoji Temple at Japan the above stated "Fake Ashes" a fresh attempt by a 'interested few', who is a freedom fighter and holding the highest office in Government of India.

Herewith I am sending for your kind perusal copy of my letter dated: 14 AUGUST 1990 I have written to above said Shri R. Venkataraman, President, India with its enclosures. The enclosing letters are : One dated: 28 JULY 1990 addressed to Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, Prime Minister, India, Two dated: Jalpaiguri, the 20th JULY, 1990 (its enclosure) addressed to Shri R. Venkataraman, President of India and Three: dated, the 11th MAY, 1990 the TELEGRAMS addressed to Prime Minister VP Singh and External Affairs Minister IK Guzral respectively alongside the copy of letter dated, 16 MAY 1988 under Ref. No.4/31/88 - FF (P) addressed to me by the Under Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI, New Delhi.

Your dropping me few line will be appreciated very much, be cause as a freedom fighter you are also in the top position in GOI and, such, your reply in the above stated context would be looked forward with interest by this 'fool of a man' - a veteran freedom fighter and, in the meantime, with all the good wishes,

Yours sincerely,
Sd/--

S. Sanyal.

Enclo. As stated.

cc to: Shri I. K. Guzral,
External Affairs Minister, India, New Delhi-11...&...
As stated in the letter dated: 24 AUGUST 1990.

S. Sanyal.
S. Sanyal.

24.8.90.

Witness No. 6.

Evidence given by Shri S.A. Ayer,
on 11th April 1956.

I was Minister for Publicity and Propaganda in the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. I went as Reuter's Special Correspondent in Thailand with headquarters in Bangkok. I worked there till December 1941. When the East Asia war ~~was~~ started, I tried to cross the ~~Indo~~ ^{Diploma} Burma frontier but failed, then returned to Bangkok and just was ^{cooling} ~~pulling~~ my heels there. By then the Indian Independence movement had started in Thailand also under the leadership of Shri Rash Behari Bose ~~and myself came over~~ ^{who had come over} to Thailand in the first half of 1942. I ^{met} ~~to meet~~ Shri Rash Behari Bose in ~~about~~ ^{June} 1942. He came from Tokyo and I joined the Indian Independence League after meeting him. I was Secretary of the Publicity Section of the I.I.L. Headquarters. I stayed in Bangkok till February 1943, then shifted to Singapore under Shri Rash Behari Bose's orders in the same capacity because he wanted to shift the headquarters of the League to Singapore. I reached Singapore in March and organised the publicity side of the League headquarters in Singapore. On 2nd July 1943 Netaji arrived in Singapore and he assumed leadership of the Movement, on the 4th July 1943, i.e. 2 days after his arrival in Singapore. I continued to work

as Secretary of the Publicity Department under Netaji. He ^{he} organised the entire League ^u Headquarters and then on 21st October 1943 he proclaimed the formation of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind.

On the proclamation of the Provisional Govt. of Azad Hind, I was appointed Minister for Publicity and Propaganda in Singapore. At that time, we ~~had~~ already had a broadcasting Station at Singapore, broadcasting on short-wave length. We were ^{also} doing broadcasts ~~under the~~ ^{over the Radio} auspices of the Thai Government ^{in Bangkok.}

Netaji left for Tokyo on the 28th of October 1943. I stayed behind in Singapore. He, having formed the Government of Azad Hind, wanted to have consultations with the Govt. of Japan as to what further steps he could take with their aid for the liberation of India. The following officers accompanied him to Tokyo:-

Major General Bhonsle,
Shri A.M. Sahay,
Col. Raju and Major Abid Hassan.

While in Tokyo, he received the cession of the Andamans and Nicobar Islands from the Japanese Government. The understanding between the Provisional Govt. of Azad Hind and the Japanese Government was that any Indian territory that came under Japanese control, would be handed over to the Provisional Govt. of Azad Hind and in accordance with that understanding

the Islands of Andaman~~s~~ and Nicobar were ceded to the Provisional Govt. of Azad Hind. On the cession of these Islands to the Provisional Govt. of Azad Hind, Major General Loganathan was designated the Administrator. He was actually sent there but what he exactly did there I am not aware.

Netaji was also an invitee to the Greater East Asia Conference in Tokyo. He attended as an observer.

Netaji returned from there in the latter half of December and he flew to Andamans and hoisted the Indian National Flag on the Islands on the 31st December 1943. Then he shifted his headquarters to Rangoon on the 6th January 1944 and himself went there. I reached there in February 1944 and ~~carried~~^{for} on the publicity and propaganda work of the Ministry of Publicity and Propaganda from Rangoon from February 1944. At that time, Netaji was arranging ^{for} the INA troops to move from Malaya into Burma with a view to sending them up to the front. We had the news that the INA on the Arakan front had fired the first shot on the 4th February 1944. Then later we had the news that the INA had crossed the Burma-India frontier and stood on Indian soil on 18th March 1944. The next very important event was that Netaji opened the National Bank of Azad Hind in Rangoon on the 5th April 1944 and with a view to mobilising the maximum resources of the Indian population in Burma to support the troops on the

front, Indians throughout Burma observed the Netaji Week from 4th to 10th July 1944 during which tremendous enthusiasm prevailed among Indians in Burma and they made a very special effort to pour into Netaji's war chest all that they could give, thus demonstrating that they stood solidly behind the INA which was fighting on the front. Then the next important event was the observance of the first anniversary of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind in Burma as well as all other countries of East Asia by Indians resident there. This week lasted from 18th of October to the 24th of October 1944. Then Netaji left Rangoon for Tokyo on the 25th of October 1944, with a view to have further consultations with the Japanese Government in regard to the prosecution of the war for India's independence. This time he was accompanied by :-

Major General Chatterjee,
Major General Kiani and
Col. Habibur Rahman.

He returned from Tokyo to Singapore in December 1944. I was asked to meet him in Singapore. I flew from Rangoon to meet him in Singapore. Immediately after reaching Singapore, Netaji started on a tour of Malaya on which he asked me to accompany ^{him} ~~him~~. It was an unforgettable tour because of the genuine enthusiasm and active support that was extended to him by Indians who gathered in their thousands at public meetings held at the places he visited. Some of the important places he visited during

~~The Four~~
~~that our~~ are -

Kuala Lumpur, Seramban,
Malaya, Ipoh and Penang.

next
The most important event was the celebration of Netaji's birthday from 23rd January to the 29th January during which once again the Indian civilian population pledged its wholehearted support and redoubled sacrifices to find the necessary supplies and equipment for the INA fighting on the various fronts on the Indo-Burma border.

Then he returned to Rangoon in January 1945. Cabinet meetings were held fairly regularly at Netaji's headquarters in Rangoon.

After return from Tokyo, ^{matters} Netaji did give us some idea of the ^{he had indicated} respects in which he needed the Japanese help, ^{he declined} and a general assurance from the top-men in Tokyo that they would do their best. I got the impression that Netaji went to Tokyo primarily to discuss military matters which were occupying his mind predominantly.

About the middle of monsoons, the military situation took a turn for the worse. The INA and the Japanese Army started retiring towards Mandalay.

Netaji paid a number of visits to the front and contacted his Commanders and inspected the troops himself. After his visit to front-line troops, he gave a review of the general military situation. He said that he was more than satisfied about the morale of our INA troops but he was making no secret of the very heavy handicaps under which the INA was fighting and he expressed his determination to continue the fighting at all costs. Netaji remained optimistic till ~~the end until~~ it was known that the British forces had actually crossed the Indo-Burma frontier and were coming in ^{faster than expected} more than towards Mandalay without practically any

resistance from the Japanese side. ^{However,} ~~The~~ rapid advance of the British forces did not come as a total surprise to Netaji because he had ~~the~~ information that the Japanese resistance was in a sense cracking up. Then news came through that the British had advanced further south of Mandalay and it was only a question of time before they might reach Rangoon. This was in April 1945.

Before the British really started advancing south of Mandalay, when Netaji was still away from headquarters, I wish to recall a rather important meeting at which to the best of my recollection, Major General Chatterjee, Major General Shah Nawaz Khan and myself were present, and we had a rather serious discussion among ourselves as to what should be Netaji's future plans in case the military situation continued to deteriorate and in case the British advanced into lower ~~Burma~~ Burma. To the best of my recollection, there was a general agreement among the three of us that whatever happened, Netaji must not allow himself to be taken prisoner by the British in Burma but on the contrary he should move further east so that he can continue to conduct the operations of the INA from wherever he was.

In April 1945, the situation was deteriorating day by day and Netaji was himself in Rangoon at that time. There were a series of consultations formal and informal between Netaji and his Advisers in the

Government as to what he should do.

Ultimately, it was decided that Netaji must leave Rangoon. This he did on the 24th of April 1945. The Japanese were prepared to offer a plane and place it at the disposal of Netaji ~~but Netaji~~ and that would have enabled him to reach Bangkok in just two hours, but Netaji point-blank refused this offer because he said that if he was pulling out of Rangoon, the girls of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment must also pull out of Rangoon and as it was impossible to transport the Rani of Jhansi girls in Burma by plane to Bangkok, he would take the same transport that might be offered to the Rani of Jhansi regiment. It was, therefore, decided that Netaji and party including the Rani of Jhansi girls would leave Rangoon by motor transport which they did on the 24th of April.

In taking any important decisions, Netaji had an opportunity to consult the Chief of Hikari Kikan, Lt. General Isoda, ^{who} and acted as ~~the~~ Liaison between Netaji on the one hand and Field Marshal Terauchi as well as the Military Headquarters in Tokyo. ^{on the other} The Provisional Government of Azad Hind had no direct courier system for communication with the Japanese Government nor any wireless to contact with anybody nor any code of their own. In other words, the Provisional Govt. of Azad Hind were handicapped in the matter of communication and transport.

On the eve of his leaving Rangoon on the 24th April Netaji issued a Special Order of the Day to officers and men of the Azad Hind Fauj:-

Page 317-318 of my book.

Netaji's party at the time of withdrawal from Rangoon consisted of about 100 Jawans of the Jan Baz Regiment and about 100 members of the Rani of Jhansi regiment. It took us about 3 weeks to reach Bangkok. The party moved by lorry at the first stage, then on foot and then by rail. Netaji reached Bangkok on the 14th of May 1945 and I reached there the next day. Later on some troops also arrived ~~in Saigon~~ in Thailand. Immediately on arrival in Bangkok Netaji got busy thinking out plans of future action. When Netaji shifted the headquarters of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and the Supreme Headquarters of the INA from Rangoon to Bangkok, Major General Loganathan had been left in charge of the Government ~~the~~ the INA forces in Rangoon. The bulk of the INA No. I and No. II Divisions were left behind in Burma. In Bangkok, Netaji held a series of formal and informal conferences with his colleagues and advisers as to ~~the~~ future action. Netaji had ~~the~~ news that Germany had surrendered, immediately after reaching Bangkok. In thinking out plans for the future, he did so against the background of ^{the} certainty, in his view, of a third world-war within 10 years after the end of the second world war. The belligerents in the third world war

would be Russia on the one side and America on the other. He came to this conclusion because though they were Allies at that moment, already a number of factors were coming up to the surface to show that differences had ~~already~~ started making themselves felt as between Russia and on the one hand and the Anglo-Americans on the other. In his view, therefore, it was only a question of time especially after the end of the war how soon these differences between the then Allie^s would deepen and ultimately lead to a third world war after ten years.

Against this background he decided to contact Russia and to prepare them as the future friends of India in his intended ~~c~~continuation of India's fight for liberation, if Britain persisted somehow to continue to rule India after the Second World War. He devoted a great deal of thought to this particular plan of his and was keen on ascertaining how far even at that stage the Japanese would extend^{to} him facilities to establish some sort of contact with the Russians. As far as I remember, the immediate reaction of the Japanese was to discourage Netaji in this intention of his to contact the Russians. At that time, I gathered from talks at the Govt. Headquarter that this reluctance was to some extent due to the anxiety of the Japanese to keep on

the right side of Russia. They feared that if ^{at} that stage they extended any facilities to Netaji to contact the Russians, the Russians ~~would~~ may not be very cordial; on the contrary, they may even be anti-pathetic to Netaji to some extent because he had associated himself with the Axis.

I have no direct knowledge of the personal reaction of Mr. Shigemitsu, the Japanese Foreign Minister, to Netaji's wish to contact Russia, but from my knowledge of the very cordial and friendly relations that prevailed between Netaji and Mr. Shigemitsu all through the independence movement in East Asia, I have every reason to believe that Mr. Shigemitsu was in sympathy with Netaji's idea of contacting Russia.

After that the next important event was the news from India of Lord Wavel^l's attempts to arrive at an understanding with Congress Leaders about ~~xxx~~ India's demand for freedom. News came through about the middle of June, 1945 that what was known as the Wavel^l ~~thoughts~~ Talks i.e. the conferences between Lord Wavel^l, then Viceroy on the one hand and Mahatma Gandhi and other Congress leaders on the other were about to begin in India. Immediately on hearing this news Netaji decided to fly to Singapore which he did on the 18th June, 1945 without any loss of time and began broadcasting over the Singapore Radio station in English, Hindi and some times in Bengali also. He kept up these broadcasts until the end of the Wavel^l ~~thoughts~~ Talks. The ~~gist~~ ^{gist} of these broadcasts of Netaji's, night after night, was an appeal to the national leaders inside India not to arrive at any understanding with the British Empire, one of the reasons being that if they arrived at any understanding with Lord Wavel^l, the issue of ~~Indian~~ ^{Indian} in

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~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

India's freedom would cease to be an international issue and would automatically become a mere domestic issue of the British Empire. He did not stop at ~~this~~ negative appeal; he went further and told his colleagues in India on the Radio that the British general elections were not far off and in the next elections he had every reason to believe that the Labour Party would come into power ~~in these elections~~. If the Indian leaders then negotiated with the Labour Government, they were bound to get a very much better deal than they could ever get through their talks with Lord Wavel^l and the Conservative Government. He was greatly relieved to hear the news from India that Wavel^l talks had failed. He had proceeded to Singapore for the specific purpose of doing the broadcast from there because Singapore had the most powerful transmitter in that Region.

He left Singapore for ~~Sar~~^{ea}mban on the 25th of July and there he was occupied with certain matters concerning the I.N.A. station ~~in Sar~~^{Here}mban. While staying in ~~Sar~~^{ea}mban he made a short trip to ~~Kuala~~ Kuala Lumpur to inspect the I.N.A. there. During his stay at ~~Sar~~^{ea}mban, he received the news on the night of the 10th August, 1945 that Russia had declared war on Japan. [I had flown to ~~Singapore~~^{Vaigon} from Bangkok on the 6th June ~~for the~~ looking after the broadcast from there. He sent me a message to join him in Singapore and I flew to ~~Singapore~~ on the 27th July. I reached ~~Sar~~^{ea}mban, where Netaji was, on the 31st July, 1945.

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x

Late on the night of August 11, Netaji received the news, personally brought by Dr. Lakshmaya, General

Secretary of the Indian Independence League Headquarters in Singapore, who had made a dash by car all the way from Singapore, ~~to inform Netaji~~ that Japan had surrendered. Netaji decided on the spot that he would return to Singapore the next morning which he did arriving there on the evening of the 12th August. From the moment he reached Singapore, he called his civilian and military advisers including Major General Kiani, to decide on the future plans. These consultations continued almost non-stop with only short breaks till the 15th August when after the pros and cons had been thrashed out thoroughly it was finally decided that Netaji must not allow himself to be taken prisoner by the British whose landing in Singapore was expected any day. Early in the day on the 15th August, official news had come through on the Radio about Japan's surrender. Netaji was extremely busy issuing instructions as to what should be done regarding the civil personnel as well as the I.N.A. in Malaya and other regions of East Asia in view of Japan's surrender and the I.N.A. also ceasing to fight. It was decided that Netaji would fly first to Bangkok and there consult the Japanese Liaison as to the exact facilities that the Japanese could place at his disposal to get away from Thailand, and if possible, to contact the Russians. Mr. A.N. Sarkar, the legal adviser of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind ~~Government~~ flew from Bangkok to Singapore on the afternoon of 14th August and gave Netaji to understand that General Isoda, the Chief of the Japanese Liaison Office in Bangkok attached to Azad Hind Government and Mr. Hachia^y, the Japanese Minister-designate to the provisional government of

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Azad Hind were keen to render whatever service they could in Netaji's plan if he had any to get away from Malaya and Siam and to go as far East as he wished, so that he would not fall a prisoner in Anglo-American hands.

The tentative decision till the afternoon of the 14th August ^{had been} ~~was~~ that Netaji would stay on in Singapore with ~~his~~ members of his Government~~x~~ and his officers of the I.N.A. and would be prepared to be taken prisoners. The procedure of surrender as such was not discussed. The final decision for Netaji to leave Singapore was influenced by the message brought by Mr. Sarkar from Bangkok.

Netaji left Singapore ^{on} ~~in~~ the morning of 16th August accompanied by Col. Habibur Rehman, Col. Pritam Singh, myself and Mr. Nigeshi, the Japanese interpreter. We reached Bangkok the same afternoon. ~~He had~~ He had consultations with the Japanese Liaison Officers, and Conferences with the civilian and military colleagues of Netaji followed. Early ^{on} ~~in~~ the morning ~~(at dawn)~~ of 17th August, we left for Bangkok aerodrome.

At about 8 A.M. Netaji and his party ~~left~~ took off from Bangkok ^{for} ~~to~~ Saigon by two planes. In ~~one~~ one plane were Netaji, Col. Habib, Col. Pritam Singh, myself and Mr. Nigeshi. In the other plane were General Isoda, Mr. Hachia, Col. Gulzara Singh, Major Abid Hasan and Mr. ^{for} ~~Dev~~ Nath Das. Usually ~~we~~ Netaji and ourselves used to travel ^{led} by bomber, ^{except when his plane was} ~~available.~~

Netaji had a plane of his own, named Azad Hind, but it had been grounded in Bangkok since April, 1945, having been badly damaged in an air raid.

The plane by which we travelled from Bangkok to Saigon was a bomber. In the plane, Netaji was sitting just behind the pilot, facing the nose. Netaji's ~~image~~

luggage consisted of three or four suit-cases. I did not know the contents of those boxes at that time. He was wearing cotton khakhi drill uniform including top boots. A hurried consultation followed soon after landing at the Saigon airport. ^{which} ~~We~~ reached Saigon ~~airport~~ at about 10 a.m.

~~Hurried consultations were held~~ and it was decided that General Isoda, Mr. Hachia^y and Col. Tada, a staff-officer of the ^e Trauchi's Command should fly to Dalat, Headquarters of Field Marshall ^e Trauchi, Supreme Commander of South East Asia^x Region, and and ascertain from him what facilities could be afforded to Netaji to pursue whatever plans he had in mind at the moment. ~~From~~ We knew that the they had flown to Dalat.

From the talk we had in Singapore just before leaving, ~~it definitely~~ the idea definitely was either Russia or at any rate Russian-held territory in Manchuria as a preliminary ^{8 days} course to reach Russia. Meanwhile Netaji and party drove into the city and waited for news. Some time later, Capt. Kiano of the Hikari Kikan, Saigon, drove to ~~some~~ where Netaji was staying and wanted to speak to Netaji very urgently. When asked what the message was, Netaji was informed by the Japanese officer through Major Abid Hasan that there was a plane ready and waiting to take off immediately and there was only one seat available.

I have no idea as to ^{where} ~~whether~~ the two small bomber planes in which we travelled from Bangkok were taken.

Netaji wanted to know where the plane was going and whether General Isoda and Mr. Hachia^y had returned

from Dalat. The answer was that there was no time to lose and that Netaji should hurry up. Netaji said that he would not hurry in that manner and if Kiano did not know where the plane was going, somebody else should know and that he should go back and find out. Kiano left and a little later General Isoda and Mr. Hachia^y and Col. Tada drove up to Netaji's residence. Netaji met them and immediately ushered them into one of the rooms. Col. Habib was also asked to join the Conference.

Our idea was that sooner or later we would reach Russian-held territory in Manchuria^y, the ultimate destination being Moscow. The idea was very vague; and we also did not know whether we had to get off the two planes at Saigon. Until we reached Saigon, I was not aware of any talk of either Netaji going to Dalat or somebody else to consult Field Marshal^e Trauchi.

Netaji came out with Col. Habib and summoned Major Abid Hasan, Mr. Dey^h Nath Das and myself into his room and asked us to close the door and then he said that he would also like Col. Pritam Singh and Col. Gulzara Singh to join us immediately. They did so very soon. He ~~was~~ stood there and we i.e. Col. Habib, Col. Gulzara Singh, Col. Pritam Singh, Major Abid Hasan, Mr. ^{Debnath} Nath Das and myself stood round him. He looked at us and said "there is a plane ready to take off in the next few minutes". He did not mention where the plan^e was going but he added that we would have to take an important decision "right now." He said that the Japanese had told him that there was only one seat to spare and we had to decide wh^ether he should take that one seat even if he had to go alone, unaccompanied by any one of us. We were

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fuzzled

completely ~~huddled~~ as to what answer to give him. We told him that he must try his very best to get the Japanese to spare at least one more seat. Then he repeated to us the question: ~~that~~ "Supposing they give only one seat, shall I or shall I not go alone". Probably we hesitated for a second and then said "Sir, for Heaven's sake insist on the Japanese to give one more seat and if still you cannot get it then you had better take the one seat and go. Also please insist on the Japanese that they should provide us with transport as soon as possible to take us wherever you might be going". Then Netaji and Col. Habib went back to the Conference room, met the Japanese, came out and told us "We ^{will} get one more seat. Let Habib come with me. I am sure they won't spare any more seats in this plane but let us try our luck". Then after that he said to Col. Gulzara Singh and myself "you had better also come with your luggage to the airport and in case we get two more seats in the plane, you can also join me, otherwise you will have to come back from the airport with your luggage. Any way hurry up". So we prepared ourselves and set off in two cars. The car containing Netaji, Col. Habib and myself reached the airport after about 4 p.m. When we entered the aerodrome we could see a plane with its engines roaring. Even after we reached the aerodrome, there was no trace of the second car and Netaji was getting very impatient at the delay in the arrival of the second car, because he was actually determined to take some luggage which was ~~xxxxxx~~ put in that car to be taken with him and put into the plane by which he was to travel. The Japanese too were getting very impatient but Netaji insisted that he would not leave until the second car

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had arrived. After a little while, the second car arrived and the luggage, consisting of two suit-cases, from the second car was almost catapulted into the plane because they did not want to lose time.

Netaji headed towards the plane, shook hands with ~~General Isoda~~ ^{Shidei} who was accompanying him and then said Good-bye to General Isoda and Mr. Hachia ^y and turned to us. He shook hands with each of us. He stretched his hands ^f towards me and said "Well, Jai Hind, I will meet you later" and gave me a vigorous hand ^{shake}. I mumbled something, ^{ea} studied myself, returned his Jai Hind and stood there. After the round of farewell hand ^{shake}, Netaji stepped up the plane and entered ~~into~~ it. Habib also said Jai Hind to all of us and followed ~~him~~ Netaji into the plane. The plane by which Netaji left ~~Singapore~~ ^{Saigon} looked ^{to} me a medium bomber and it was much bigger in size than the two planes in which we came from Bangkok to Saigon. I think there was no ~~time~~ talk any time of General Isoda or Mr. Hachia ^y accompanying Netaji. ~~There were boxes~~

The two boxes might or might not have been the part of the luggage of 4 boxes.

Nobody could look ~~sixty~~ into the plane as the engines were roaring and the wind was very heavy. He entered the plane from the port side. Then I went round the ~~tail~~ ^{tail} of the plane to the ~~starboard~~ ^{starboard} side in the hope ^{of} ~~to~~ get a last glimpse of Netaji inside the plane if he was sitting just behind the pilot as I knew he used to do on his air trips. I tried but I could not see Netaji where he was sitting; ~~so~~ so I guessed perhaps he was sitting farther away from there. To the best of my knowledge, he was in his usual Supreme Commander's uniform (cotton khakhi) which he usually wore; and I think he was also wearing top boots at that time. So at 5.15 p.m. the plane took off from .

the aerodrome and the take off was quite normal.
We all ~~returned~~ left the aerodrome after the
plane had vanished into the horizon. This was
the 17th August (evening). ~~Then we drove back~~
~~to our quarters in the town.~~

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12-4-56
at 10 AM

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We returned to our ~~head~~quarters in Saigon on the 17th evening in a very depressed mood.

There was no news the whole of the next day, i.e. 18th, and on the 19th, we learnt that a plane was going to Japan on the 20th and one seat on that plane ~~could~~ be available to one of our party which would enable the person taking that seat to join Netaji very soon. This was said by Captain Kiano of the Hikari Kikan. They said that the remainder of our party would be flown to Hanoi where they could contact the local Japanese authorities who would try to fly them onward from Hanoi. Then my comrades insisted that I must take the single seat offered in the plane bound for Japan because they thought that I would be of some immediate help to Netaji in doing work of a secretarial nature. I reached Saigon airport on the morning of August 20 along with my comrades and they took off for Hanoi about 9 A.M. Sometime later I accidentally met Mr. Fukuoka, Chief of ^{Domei} ~~h...~~ News Agency for the East Asia Regions, who told me abruptly that he was sorry for Netaji. I could not quite understand what he meant but I presumed that Netaji had perhaps been held up by bad weather on Formosa island, a place notorious for its unreliable weather flying and he more or less encouraged me in that belief but he asked me not to say anything about it to anybody. A little while later as I was preparing to board the plane for Japan I

met Rear Admiral Chuda of the Japanese Navy whom I had known in Rangoon ^{and he gave} ~~giving~~ out the news that Netaji was dead. I had no chance to ask him for any detailed information because in the next few moments I was aboard the bomber bound for Japan. On the flight I was escorted by Col. Tada, Staff Officer of F.M. Terauchi's Command and by Captain Aoki. When we reached Canton at about 5 P.M. and halted for refuelling, Col. Tada, through Capt. Aoki, told me for the first time that Netaji's plane crashed near Taihoku (Formosa) on August 18 and that Netaji was seriously injured and succumbed the same night and Col. Habibur Rehman, who was not so seriously injured, was still alive and lying in a Hospital in Taihoku. I told Col. Tada bluntly that neither Indians in East Asia nor Indians in India would be prepared to believe the story of the air-crash unless positive proof was forthcoming and I pressed him to see that the plane took me to Taihoku so that I may have a chance ~~to~~ seeing Netaji's body with my own eyes and be of some service to Col. Habib in his then condition. I also told him that it was necessary as thereby at least one more Indian besides Habib could claim to have gone to Taihoku and satisfied himself about the truth of the air-crash story. Col. Tada promised that I would be taken to Taihoku, but later we actually landed at what I learnt was Taichu

aerodrome. (So far as I know Taihoku was the Japanese name for ^aTaipei.) I expressed my bitter disappointment particularly when I was told that from Taichu we were to fly direct to Japan without touching Taihoku. (I did not make any enquiry about the possibility of going to Taihoku by land). We spent the night at Taichu. We reached Tokyo on August 22nd. In Tokyo, accompanied by Captain Aoki, I moved into Daiichi hotel and stayed at the hotel till the next day. On 24th I moved into Mrs. A.M. Sahay's house. Then I paid occasional visits to the Japanese headquarters to see if there was any news from Formosa. They said they had none.

The Japanese in consultation with me drafted a brief communique announcing the death of Netaji following an air-crash in Taihoku. The Japanese were emphatic in their protestations that the story of of Netaji's air crash was hundred per cent correct even if I was not convinced of the truth of it.

Eventually on September 7, I went again to the Japanese Military authorities in Tokyo who asked me to call the next day at the High Command headquarters which I did. They told me that the ^{of Netaji}ashes brought by Col. Habibur Rehman from Formosa the previous day, would be handed over to me

for safe custody and that Col. Habibur Rehman himself would be joining me sometime that evening. On this occasion I was accompanied, as on previous occasions, also by Shri Ramamurti^u, Chairman, I.I.L. in Japan, which had ceased to function actively after Japan's surrender. There at the main entrance to the Imperial Japanese Military Headquarters I received the ashes at the hands of a senior Japanese Military Officer. The officer escorted by other officers carried the urn in both his hands with due solemnity, descended the steps to where I was standing ready with a loop of cloth slung round my neck and reaching down to my waist in front and placed the urn very respectfully on the loop and I gripped the urn tightly with both hands and bowed head and got into a car and drove off ^{with Murti} to Murti^u house, with ~~Murti~~^{his} which for all practical purposes was being used as the IIL headquarters especially after Japan's surrender. It was ^{an} urn of light colour wood about 6" to 8" cube. It was not covered at all. There was nothing written on that urn. It was nailed down and there was no other covering and I do not remember having seen any prominent writing on the wood~~en~~ in any language. After placing the urn on a pedestal in a room in Murti^u's house and offering our respects, we had the urn covered with cloth and I wrote the words "Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose" on the cloth covering. Then the same

night, Col. Habib arrived in the house of Mrs. Sahay where I was staying. That was the first time that I met him after saying good bye to him at the Saigon Airport on August 17. Then immediately I asked him a number of questions as to what happened from the time he took off ~~from~~ ^{from} Saigon and until he walked into Mrs. Sahay's house. Col. Habib said that in about a couple of hours' time after we took off from Saigon airport on August 17, we landed at Touraine (Indo China) and halted there for the night. Taking off again early the next morning (August 18) we landed at the Taihoku airport at about 2 P.M. When the plane was refuelling we had something to eat and were ready to take off again. Meanwhile I changed into warm clothes and asked Netaji if he too would not do so because we would be flying into colder regions. Netaji laughed away the idea and said that there was no hurry for him to change into warm clothes. He was in cotton Khaki and bush coat. He was not in a hurry to discard these for woollen Khakhis. After half an hour, we walked across to the plane. At about 2-35 P.M. the plane took off. We had just cleared the runway and gained about 2⁰⁰ or 300 feet, we were over the outskirts of the aerodrome. Then a sudden deafening noise was heard. We started losing height pretty fast. Then I turned round and looked at Netaji. He was absolutely unperturbed but he must have seen the acutest distress in my face and in less than a few

second after that, the plane crashed on its nose and then everything went black for a while. Just before the crash, the whole weight of the plane was being put on the star-board engine, because apparently the port engine was not functioning. After the crash, everything went black for a while. When I recovered consciousness I realised that all the luggage had crashed on top on me and a fire had started in front of me. So exit by the rear was blocked by the packages and exit by the front was possible only through the fire. Netaji was injured in the head but he struggled to his feet and was about to move in my direction to get away from the fire and to get out of the plane through the rear. But this was out of question. There was not an inch of passage through which we could get out. So I said to him " ^a ~~AGEY~~ SAY NIK ⁱ ~~ALYAY~~ NETAJI". He sized up the situation and then tried to make his way through the nose of the plane which was already smashed and burnt. With both his hands he fought his way through the fire. He got out and stood there about 10 or 15 feet away anxiously looking out for me. When the plane crashed, Netaji got a splash of petrol all over his cotton Khakhi, (I have not met Col. Habib since 1947) and it caught fire when he struggled through the nose of the plane. So he stood with his clothes burning and himself made desperate efforts to unbuckle the belts of his bush coat, and round his waist. I dashed up to

him and tried to help him to remove the belts. My hands were burnt in the process. As I was stumbling with these belts I looked up and my heart nearly stopped when I saw his face battered by iron and burnt by fire. A few moments later he collapsed and lay on the ground of the outskirts of Taihoku aerodrome. I too was exhausted and went and lay down next to him. The whole place looked horrible with the crashed plane and we passengers stood about all over the place. The next thing I knew was that I was lying on a Hospital bed next to Netaji. I found out later that within 15 minutes of the crash, military ambulances had rushed us to the hospital in Taihoku city. Netaji lost consciousness almost immediately [^] after reaching the hospital. He revived a little later and lapsed into a state of comma. I was not so badly injured or burnt though I was hardly able to stand up. I struggled to my feet and went up to Netaji as often as I could. The Japanese made super-human efforts to save Netaji but it was all invain. Six hours after he was brought into the hospital, i.e. at 9 P.M. on August 18, Netaji's end came peacefully. I find it difficult to describe to you ^{those} six hours of mental agony not so much for Netaji as for me. In all those six hours not even once did Netaji complain about the ^{driving} ~~rifing~~ pain that he must have been suffering.

(Col. Habib's version continued.) Except for brief spells, Netaji was practically conscious throughout. In one of those delicious moments, Netaji whispered the name of Hasan. I was ^{sitting} ~~staying~~ near him and I said "Hasan yahan nahin hai, Saheb, Men hun Habib." He was convinced that he was not going to survive. A moment before his end came, he said to me "Habib, my end is coming very soon. I have fought all my life for my countrymen. I am dying for my countrymen. Go and tell my countrymen to continue the fight for India's freedom. India will be free and before long". These were the last words he spoke to me. I was prostrate with grief. I did not care what happened to me. I was not interested in anything. The Japanese tried to coax me and did ^{their} ~~very~~ best to make me eat a little by way of nourishment but they found it was useless for the time being. When I felt well enough to talk to them, I told them to arrange to send Netaji's body by plane to Singapore preferably or to Tokyo if Singapore was out of the question. They promised they would. I am quite sure they did try their very best. They told me that there were practical difficulties in getting Netaji's coffin into the plane. They told me then that it was impossible to carry Netaji's remains out of Tai ^{Hoku} and cremation had to be arranged as early as possible. They wanted my consent to it. I had no other alternative but to agree to the cremation in Tai ^{Hoku}. The funeral service with full military honours was held in the shrine attached to the Hospital and the cremation took place on the 20th. They placed Netaji's ashes in an urn and kept it in the shrine. My wounds ⁵ ~~8~~ were healing slowly; my health improved steadily. Then

I ~~tried~~ told the Japanese that I did not wish to stay in the Hospital one day longer than necessary and I must take Netaji's ashes to Tokyo as early as possible. They could not decide whether they should send me across by ship or by plane as they were not sure whether any ship or plane was leaving Formosa for Japan. Three weeks went by without much hope of reaching Tokyo. Then suddenly they told ^{me} that a single ambulance plane was leaving Tai ^{hoku} and I could get a seat. I took charge of Netaji's ashes and flew by that plane and reached Tokyo on the 6th September. I was taken straight to one of the suburbs for the sake of secrecy and it was only two days later that the Japanese took first the ashes and then me into Tokyo city."

That was the end of Col. Habib's version of what had happened since he took off with Netaji from Saigon airport on the evening of the 17th August and until he reached Tokyo and met me.

We kept Netaji's ashes for a few days in Murty's house and then took them to the house of Sahay at both of which houses prayers were offered. On 14th September, we took the ashes to the ^cRankoji temple, Harin ^cfuchi, Suginam ^cku, Tokyo, where we held a funeral service conducted by the priest of that temple and left the ashes in his safe custody. Those present at the funeral service included Murty's family, about 40 Indian cadets who had been sent to Japan for military training by Netaji, one or two representatives of the Japanese Government, Habib and myself.

About the time of the funeral service at the temple, Habib had shifted to another house - two streets away from Murty's house. On the evening of the 23rd September, Habib and myself went to the barracks where

the Indian cadets were staying and Habib started giving them a talk. When he was about to conclude it, someone walked into the room and whispered into my ears that a Japanese military police officer was waiting outside and wanted to see Habib. We knew then that Habib was about to be arrested and taken to the lock up. We first drove to Murty's house and had something to eat. Then Habib was driven off by the Japanese officer to the Police Headquarters. We visited Habib at the Police Headquarters the next morning and the same night Habib was released and told that the arrest and detention had been due to some slight misunderstanding of American instructions on the part of Japanese Military Police. A day or two after that I myself shifted from Sahay's house to where Habib was staying. He was occupying a room upstairs and I occupied a room down-stairs. Two or three mornings later, I walked upstairs and found Col. Habib with the help of Murty and his brother, Jaya, cleaning up and sorting out tiny little collections of charred-looking metal on the floor. They asked me to sit down and continue with the work and cleaning up and sorting out what I then found was golden ornaments including plain bangles, rings, ear-rings, some of them with charred small red-stones and white-stones of the type which is worn by Indian ladies largely in South India. Nearby was an empty ^{Kerosene} ~~kerosene~~ tin which I presumed must have been the container. The whole thing was sorted out and cleaned as far as possible and wrapped in pieces of paper and put back into the ~~EDHXXXXX~~ ~~kerosene~~ tin and closed and properly tied up. Later on in the course of my talk with Col. Habib,

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he told me that the valuables that Netaji ~~XXXX~~ was carrying had been involved in the crash and had been charred in that manner and the Japanese had salvaged whatever they could and delivered it to him. It was kept safe in that house as long as Habib and I stayed there until our departure for India on November 19, 1945.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

SECTION

23 B

NOTES / CORRESPONDENCE

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